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Vol VI No 180 *17 September 1981*

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GENERAL ANEZ PRESENTS DEMANDS TO GOVERNMENT

PY162323 Paris AFP in Spanish 1935 GMT 16 Sep 81

[By Eduardo Paz]

[Excerpts] La Paz, 16 Sep (AFP)--The Santa Cruz military rebels today demanded from the government here their reinstatement into the armed forces and an effective repression of drug trafficking, two conditions which appeared in the agreement signed to put an end to the military crisis last month. These demands are to be found in a letter written by the rebel leader, Gen Lucio Anez Rivero who, together with former President Alberto Natusch Busch and with support from the army's nine divisions, obtained the resignation of Gen Luis Garcia Meza from the Presidency as a result of a constitutional agreement, several essential points of which seem not to have been fulfilled.

The letter says that it is inconceivable that the government should not keep the promises made with the guarantee of the Catholic Church "of the reinstatement of the comrades-in-arms." The document adds that it is also inconceivable that the government should continue measures that anger the Bolivian people. The general clearly states that it is necessary to take five measures in order to win back the confidence of the citizens and prevent the economic, moral and institutional crisis from becoming still deeper.

In agreement with Foreign Minister Gonzalo Romero, Anez Rivero proposes that ruthless action be taken to finally eradicate drug trafficking.

He further says that a precise schedule should be made known showing the genuine intention of institutionalizing the country, since the country cannot be governed without listening to the opinions and ideas of the political sector of the nation.

He also maintains that the government should prepare and enforce a coherent plan permitting the country to meet the difficult economic-financial situation and revive the economy.

He asks that human rights and democratic guarantees be respected, that the curfew be lifted and that the network of radio newscasts be suspended.

CENTRAL BANK REPORTS ON DECLINING GROWTH RATE

PY152100 Paris AFP in Spanish 1503 GMT 13 Sep 81

[Text] La Paz, 13 Sep (AFP)--According to the 1980 annual report of the Central Bank, Bolivia's growth rate has been declining significantly over the recent years.

Until 1974, the gross domestic product (GDP) has been growing at the rate of 5.8 percent; in 1976 this rate increased to 6.8 percent, but it began to decline almost immediately afterwards. By 1978 the GDP was down to 2.8 percent; the following year it dropped to 1.4 percent, and in 1980 it barely reached 0.8 percent, according to the Central Bank report.

According to local bank experts, the estimated GDP for this year is lower still, because both productive and financial activities have been evidencing a severe decline.

The Central Bank concluded by stating that after having experienced significant upsurges in 1976 and 1977 the economic development entered a negative phase in 1978.

Meanwhile, the report of the Central Bank stated that the Economic Commission for Latin America (CEPAL) believes that Bolivia has been spared a worse crisis thanks to its oil self-sufficiency.

FOREIGN MINISTER SARAIVA GUERREIRO INTERVIEWED

PY160336 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Sep 81 p 18

[Text of interview granted by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro to JORNAL correspondent Luis Orlando Carneiro in Brasilia; no date given]

[Text] [Question] In the lecture you recently gave at the Superior War College [ESG], you said that Brazil's options are Western options, but then you drew attention to some distortions of Western values, hegemony for instance. Were you concretely referring to some new U.S. hegemonic offensive perceived in the missions of Gen Vernon Walters and Under Secretary for Inter-American Affairs Thomas Enders in Brazil?

[Answer] In my lecture I referred to permanent Western values, so I criticized those distortions caused by specific interests during different historical periods. My intention was to stress that the West's capacity or strength resides precisely in its permanent values, basically: freedom, respect for national sovereignty in international society, equal treatment among states, search for consensus--values which are opposed to the hierarchical organization of international society. For this reason, colonialism, some forms of imperialism--let's say, the hegemonic system to the extent that it implies subordination--are contrary to the permanent or traditional values of the West. Now as for the assumption of a new U.S. hegemonic offensive, I can say this: Both Mr Walters and Mr Enders, in what they said during their visits here in their talks with Brazilian Government officials, revealed the opposite to the idea of hegemony. Mr Walters came here in an information-gathering mission, and Mr Enders to get acquainted with the country and to obtain a general idea on questions of common interest. In both visits, the talks were marked by frankness, respect, efforts to understand positions. The visits were fruitful in terms of mutual information and consultation. All of this is the opposite of the idea of hegemony, and for this reason we believe the visits were positive and useful.

[Question] Could Vice President George Bush's upcoming visit to Brazil be interpreted as another move by the U.S. Government to restore a partnership which has been in disarray, especially during the Geisel-Carter period? It should be recalled that in 1978 the then-foreign minister and now Brazilian ambassador to Washington used to say that "today, Brazil's first partner is Western Europe; second ...the developing world; and third the United States." Is the situation the same now?

[Answer] I would simply say that Brazil and the United States have an avowed disposition to maintain their relations at the best possible level within a conception of mutual respect and maturity. We considered Vice President Bush's visit to be in line with this concept. We have no reason to think that his visit is not in line with the maturity and mutual importance both countries attach to their relations. We believe that understanding between the two countries will increase. There is no doubt that the pattern of trade has changed. As I said in my lecture at the ESG, today not only the Third World as a whole, but Latin America alone in 1980 was a bigger trade partner than the United States, while the EEC continues to be the biggest. These facts are obviously important, but the foreign policy of a country, especially that of a country like Brazil with the degree of maturity attained by its public opinion and its society, is not and cannot be single-dimension police, based on a single factor.

To the extent that the country becomes more complex, its connections with the world become more complex, more varied; and its policy is determined by an increasing variety of factors. The relative importance of such factors must also be taken into consideration. Therefore, the change in trade patterns does not necessarily mean that there has been a change in foreign policy. The factors involved in trade patterns are not the only ones which determine the greater complexity of Brazilian foreign policy.

There are other factors, including those I mentioned in my answer to your first question, such as Brazil's permanent values, its security interests and others. In my ESG lecture, I mentioned the question of trade only as a factor among others.

In the lecture mention was made of commercial partners. Trade partnership can be measured by trade statistics. But on several occasions, we have said that we do not have privileged or exclusive relations with anybody. Answering questions on the role of trade, on the relative role of trade in Brazil's foreign relations, I have said--even on the "Free Channel" program--that our foreign relations are not focused just on markets.

In addition to the market aspect, no matter how important this is, we look at the people of a country, at the national personality of that country, at its importance in the international community. I reassert our belief that we do not conduct a purely commercial foreign policy; that is, Brazil can no longer afford the luxury of limiting its relations to commercial terms, purely and mechanically, because the country's dimensions are now more important than what they used to be.

I believe there is something obvious: The United States by itself continues to be Brazil's main commercial partner. There is a tendency to compare the United States with economic groupings such as the EEC and the Third World.

That comparison is interesting from a historical perspective, but the comparison is made between a single-country market and the markets of many countries.

[Question] How can the exercise of a foreign policy concerned with the resurgence of polarization, with "vertical dependencies," a pragmatic and "soberly realistic" policy, be reconciled with Brazil's adherence to the West?

[Answer] We have said that there is a need to study situations within their inherent contexts; regional situations in which there are points of friction; but always mainly taking into account the inherent conditions of that situation, the real interests and motivations of the countries that are involved themselves and the specific causes of those situations. There is no sense in trying to resolve them or face them as though they are simply an outbreak within the East-West confrontation. In our opinion, it would even be a mistake for the West to essentially see that type of confrontation within those situations at a time when the West's strength, as we have said, is to be found in its capability for dialogue, the flexibility that characterizes it and its respect for the individual determination of each nation.

Therefore, in each situation it is not our position to start with the premise that it is essentially a question of a two-sided confrontation. It is necessary to think that there can be several other factors. For example: We cannot consider that a colonial situation substantially and fundamentally ceases to be one no matter how much it has been exploited in the ideological context. Therefore, it would be wrong for us to seek a reason on a merely ideological basis.

This is why we understand that to place excessive emphasis on the world panorama as seen through the East-West conflict, or to see the world in black and white, most of the time leads the West to commit a serious error: that of defining as of its own interest a situation such as apartheid. It contains contradictions, contradictions between what is a permanent value in the West and a position that many could consider as tactically important because their ideas are completely dominated by the two-sided confrontation. There is nothing worse for the West than to become characterized everywhere as a defender of a certain colonial situation or hegemonies, etc. In the long run there can be nothing worse. The possible momentary gains are more than offset by the negative effects, by the resentment and the lack of confidence. It is a case of giving the East all the nice things, including the West's own principles, which are incompatible with colonialism and with racial discrimination.

If we were to observe the principles that are common, or that are a reality or aspiration among Western countries--freedom, equality and cooperation with an eye on the common welfare, on a basis that does not deny the individual and, in a certain way, the capability for initiative--in the international field, it must lead to tolerance, even with countries that, as a result of their struggle against colonialism, have decided on different internal solutions. What is important is that those countries end up by acquiring confidence in the West, observing that their security and their possibilities for evolution are not placed in jeopardy by the West, but that it is also the West that can cooperate with them by respecting their personalities; and it is the West that can offer them much more in terms of economic development, markets and technical cooperation through the future.

[Question] Then, to reconcile means to exercise, execute that policy...?

[Answer] By demonstrating, proving that the West is the solution. It is my opinion that the West is not imposing anything, with the exception of mutual respect and the assertion of the personality of each nation.

Tolerating and understanding the states of development--that is, as the individuality of the person is acknowledged internally and those that need support are helped--then it must also be internationally recognized that there are also different levels and help must be provided, in terms of cooperation, so that countries can develop, so that they can stand firm and be responsible for themselves; this is the normal ideal of any nation, of any state, even the newer ones. Meanwhile, the West has more to offer than a closed system, an organized hierarchy, as I said during my lecture.

[Question] Although it condemns South Africa's intervention in Angola, and in international forums it backs Namibia's self-determination despite the Cuban and Soviet presence in Africa, the Brazilian Government did not support the French-Mexican position in favor of recognizing legitimacy for the guerrilla action in El Salvador. Should the communists' presence in Africa and Central America be treated differently?

[Answer] In the first place, the case of El Salvador does not stem from a colonial situation; unlike Namibia, El Salvador is not a case of domination of people by the government of another nation. Had this been the case, it would have represented a colonial situation, which is in itself a situation of an international nature, thus pertaining to the category of international relations. In the second place, the question in the case of Angola, which emerged from a colonial situation just a few years ago, has to do with a country's armed attack against another country. Since we have diplomatic relations with the Luanda government, with a sovereign country which we recognize as such, we cannot but adopt a position opposing an armed attack against that country. In addition, since a colonial situation prevails in Namibia and we have an anticolonial position which must of necessity be the only one compatible with the West's permanent values, we cannot but stand against this case of colonial exploitation. The Salvadoran case is different in fact, but the norms applied and which we abide by are the same.

What is the case in El Salvador? This is an independent and sovereign country, free of colonial shackles. This is a country with which we have normal diplomatic relations and, because of the principle of nonintervention, we could not tell the Salvadoran Government how to proceed to solve the internal problem. We abide by a norm we consider essential to international relations. We understand that whenever there is a state of internal rebellion within a sovereign state, other states have no right to stand as judges and to say whether the rebellion is good or bad; neither can they stand as teachers to tell the rebellion-involved country to do this or that, to indicate what actions it should take. This is the reason why the Brazilian Government saw the French-Mexican declaration as a bad precedent: because it is incompatible with the guidelines of our foreign policy, although we admit that the French and Mexican intention may have been good, humanitarian or whatever, in view of the devastation El Salvador is suffering.

But we could not, not at all, fail to consider the declaration as a bad precedent. We do not agree with it, because the declaration is not in line with the Brazilian position.

Moreover, nine Latin American countries decided to issue a joint counter declaration in exercising their full right to express their views. Brazil had not been invited to participate in that joint declaration. In fact, it would have been unnecessary. Furthermore, Brazil only participates in declarations such as that only if it participates in their preparation and if it had the opportunity to give its opinion on their wording, style and timing. But Brazil's participation was not necessary, as the Colombian president then visiting Brazil said in a press interview. By the way, the world press had no doubts as to the Brazilian position which is simple and clear. In several communiques we have stressed the principle of nonintervention, affirming that El Salvador's problem is to be solved by the Salvadorans themselves, and have expressed our best wishes for a democratically pluralist political solution. We could not wish anything else, being what we are. But we cannot give a prescription to the Salvadoran Government or society to find that solution; neither can we tell whether they will find the path to that solution. On this basic difference exists with the French-Mexican declaration.

It should also be understood that the existence of divergencies in opinion between two countries over concrete cases or situations is a phenomenon that normally occurs in international relations. I do not think that divergencies of that kind can fundamentally affect relations between countries holding different opinions. I am now going to Mexico, with which our relations at this time could not be better--our bilateral relations have a great potential. There is a political decision by the Brazilian and Mexican chiefs of state to enhance relations; there is a good disposition to always talk about world and regional questions on which the two countries have many coinciding positions--and I am not worried in the least that the specific case of the French-Mexican declaration created a divergence in our viewpoints and positions. We need to understand and get used to something like this, because it is quite normal.

And things like that are precisely characteristic of the type of international society which we understand as Western society, that is: a society allowing room for divergencies which do not preclude dialogues or talks, since frank talks are the hallmark of a free international society.

[Question] You have said that unity has to be built upon the countries' real positions, not on disguised divergencies...

[Answer] Yes, that is an important point. I once said that the uniform trait among Latin American countries is their abhorrence of uniformity...

[Question] Critics of the foreign policy enforced by the present government believe that there is a contradiction in the fact that Brazil is condemning the escalation of the arms race between the superpowers on the one hand, while on the other it is making every effort to increase the manufacture and export of war materiel.

[Answer] In the first place, Brazil is not engaged in an arms race. Moreover, the percentage of the GDP that Brazil allots for defense is today one of the lowest in the world, even in Latin America. What is more, in the last few years that percentage has not reached 1 percent and it has not been higher than that. In the second place, the Brazilian war industry was not the result of a special government-backed venture. That is, it was not an industry that was artificially developed in compliance with a government program, but rather the result of our country's industrial development. In the third place, it would be senseless for a developing country like Brazil, which must increase its exports in order to be able to pay not only for its imports, but also to service its foreign debt, to be the only country in the world that abstains from selling arms.

Why blame Brazil alone when there is a market for arms and every country, absolutely every country, that has arms to sell will do so? In the fourth place, Brazil has refused to sell arms whenever these sales would result in an imbalance or would make a regional conflict deteriorate. Moreover, the volume that has been sold has never had a significant impact in any conflict.

In the fifth place, figures have been greatly exaggerated since in a market of $120 billion, Brazilian arms exports--if I remember correctly--do not exceed $300 million. The $1 or $2-billion figures represent only values authorized to be negotiated or the total amount that can be sold. These include noncombat and transportation material.

In conclusion, Brazil--like the international community in general--condemns the threats posed by the arms race. Brazil cannot hesitate on this issue just because it has some arms trade.

[Question] In your lecture at the Superior War College you discussed Brazil's foreign policy in Latin America, Africa and the South Atlantic, and Brazilian relations with the industrialized Western countries. You did not mention, however, our policy regarding the Middle East. Was this an intentional omission or was it because enough has been said on "the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people" and on "the rights of all nations and governments in the region to live in peace," but without making a specific reference to Israel?

[Answer] No, it was not. It was not the purpose of the lecture to discuss all areas. The Middle East, which is a very important issue, was mentioned indirectly in terms of certain principles: self-determination, etc....Other areas that are commercially important and promising for our foreign relations, like our relations with China and with the ASEAN countries, were not mentioned because it was not our intention to make an exhaustive analysis of the state of Brazilian relations with each geographic region. The objective of this lecture was to explain certain concepts and some examples were given to illustrate them but not all of the cases were discussed.

GUERREIRO COMMENTS TO MOZAMBICAN COUNTERPART

PY161827 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Sep 81 p 5

[Text] Brasilia--Brazilian Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro yesterday told his Mozambican counterpart Joaquim Chissano that "international law has been openly violated" by South Africa's invasion of Angolan territory and that the crisis is not over yet "despite the general condemnation of the attack."

Guerreiro made these remarks with the obvious intention of avoiding being drawn into a discussion over more controversial issues such as the presence of Cuban troops in Angola or the Soviet aid to Mozambique.

The Mozambican foreign minister arrived in Brasilia yesterday morning from Rio de Janeiro and the Brazilian foreign minister made his speech last night at Itamaraty Palace.

While Chissano was paying his scheduled visits to President Figueiredo and to Minister Xavier de Albuquerque, chairman of Supreme Federal Court, and holding his working meetings at the Foreign Ministry, Itamaraty spokesmen disclosed that Chissano and Guerreiro had decided that the talks would concern only bilateral relations, while multilateral issues would be left for the New York meeting where the two officials would attend the UN General Assembly.

Today the Mozambican minister is scheduled to visit the National Congress and will sign the joint declaration at Itamaraty. He is leaving for Sao Paulo tomorrow.

In his 5-page speech, Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro spoke about Brazilian-Mozambican relations. He spent barely two paragraphs on the Angolan situation and only one paragraph on reaffirming President Figueiredo's African policy.

On the invasion he said that "just recently, a friendly country, Angola, bound to us by permanent historical and cultural ties, has been the victim of severe aggression. International law has been openly violated. The peace in a region which interests both Mozambique and Brazil is being threatened. Despite the general condemnation of the attack, shared by both Mozambique and Brazil, the crisis has not been resolved."

Reaffirming Itamaraty's African policy, Guerreiro said that President Figueiredo "has assigned high priority to Brazilian relations with African countries," and that "Brazil aims to struggle for the cause of peace and development together with the African nations." He also said that Brazil will seek "the condemnation of all types of racial discrimination, especially those which have become institutionalized in Southern Africa, on the very borders of Mozambique. (South Africa)

On bilateral relations the Brazilian foreign minister said that "trade will be developed. We have started technical cooperation which will benefit both countries through an exchange of information. We have established direct maritime links. Brazilian enterprises have joined Mozambican efforts to further economic and social development."

In addition to the official statement of the Brazilian foreign minister, experts of the two countries held talks at Itamaraty to evaluate the prospects for Brazilian participation in exploiting Mozambican coal.

Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas said yesterday that for the time being the Angolan Government has made no specific requests for help in the crisis. He said that "there has been no request for military support or any other kind of aid such as foodstuffs, clothing or medicine."

The Foreign Ministry spokesman made these remarks to preclude misunderstandings regarding the statement made by Mozambican Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano in Rio concerning Mozambique's request that all governments (Brazil's included) pay heed to Angola's requests for help whenever they are made.

Bernardo Pericas also explained that Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro could meet his Angolan counterpart Paulo Jorge during his visit to the United Nations in New York.

NEW 105-MM CANNON FOR ARMORED CAR TO BE BUILT

PY161535 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 25 Aug 81 p 18

[Excerpts] Sao Paulo--ENGEX [expansion unknown], a branch of ENGESA [Specialized Engineers, Inc] which specializes in manufacturing arms, is only awaiting for more requests to start the industrial production of a new 105-mm cannon which has been successfully tested by ENGEX.

The new 105-mm cannon can be placed on the Sucuri, the new armored car developed by ENGESA. The Sucuri is still undergoing tests and is still not massed-produced because ENGESA has been unable to find a proper cannon for the vehicle. Now ENGESA military experts believe they have found it in the new 105-mm cannon.

PRODUCTION OF NEW INNOVATIVE MACHINEGUN ANNOUNCED

PY161758 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Aug 81 p 34

[Excerpts] In the coming months the international military materiel market will be shaken by the launching of the new Brazilian machinegun, the Uirapuru 7.62-mm NATO, developed locally by army experts together with technicians of the Mekanika Industria e Comercio Ltd. of Rio de Janeiro.

The new machinegun, which will be mass-produced at the end of the year, will have a revolutionary effect on the light-weaponry market thanks to a number of innovations: It will be three times as strong as the regular kind, easy to service and capable of being adjusted for long-range fire. The National Security Council and the Foreign Relations Ministry, which are responsible for the nation's military materiel exporting policy, are already examining contracts to supply African and the Middle Eastern countries.

The Maria Bonita [Pretty Mary]--as it has been initially nicknamed--will soon become a significant item among our exports. Several specialized foreign publications have asked the Army Ministry to supply information about the characteristics of the machinegun. Even China has shown some interest in obtaining information about its operation.

The technology of the Uirapuru is totally controlled by the Brazilians and the trademark is owned by the Army Technological Center (CTEX) and the enterprise which manufactured it. The first version of this type of machinegun was initially made by the Army Institute for Research and Development in 1968 and passed on to Mekanika Industria e Comercio Ltd 4 years later; the latter concluded the studies by 1979 when it built the first prototype under CTEX supervision.

The Mekanika Industria e Comercio Ltd turned to researching and developing light weaponry in 1975 when it started by working on the design of the Uru Luger 9-mm submachinegun, a pioneering project whose most remarkable characteristic was that 3,000 units were assembly-line produced at the same time. Being of extremely simple design, the Uru submachinegun has only 17 parts.

The Uru submachinegun has been mass-produced for over a year now for the army, navy, air force, military police and security organizations.

BRIEFS

DEFICIT WITH U.S.--Rio de Janeiro, 8 Sep (AFP)--The Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brazil reported that during the first half of this year Brazil had an $87,942,000 trade deficit with the United States. During this period Brazil exported $1,843,063,000 worth of goods to the United States and imported goods worth $1,931,010,000. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1028 GMT 8 Sep 81 PY]

TRADE WITH JAPAN--Rio de Janeiro, 8 Sep (AFP)--The Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brazil today reported that Brazil has obtained a $19,709,000 surplus from its trade with Japan during the first half of the year. Brazil exported to Japan $580,912,000 worth of goods and imported $561,203,000 worth of Japanese products. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1030 GMT 8 Sep 81 PY]

ALCOHOL EXPORTS--Hugo Almeida, chairman of the Brazilian Alcohol and Sugar Institute, has reported that Brazil exported 144 million liters of alcohol between May and September of this year. Of this amount, 120 million liters went to Japan alone. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Sep 81 p 1 PY]

COCOA EXPORTS--Rio de Janeiro, 12 Sep (AFP)--The Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brazil has reported that Brazilian exports of cocoa and its byproducts totalled 127,480 tons during the first 7 months of the year, bringing in $299,929,000. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1110 GMT 12 Sep 81 PY]

SUGAR EXPORTS--Rio de Janeiro, 12 Sep (AFP)--According to the Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brazil, Brazilian sugar exports during the first 7 months of 1981 reached 1,151,663 tons valued at $598,118,000. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1114 GMT 12 Sep 81 PY]

ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER TALKS TO REPORTERS

PA152103 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0632 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Text] Quito, 15 Sep (LATIN-REUTER)--Israeli Foreign Affairs Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said here tonight that his country "is interested in a Middle East free of imperialist domination which lives in conditions of peace."

Shamir talked with Ecuadorean reporters after discussions with top officials of Ecuador, where he has been since Sunday on an official visit which concludes today. From here he will travel to the Dominican Republic and later to the UN General Assembly in New York.

He explained that in his talks with Ecuadorean authorities "it was decided to create a mixed committee to study practical and operational means that will permit increased cooperation between Ecuador and Israel."

Referring to the international situation, Shamir noted that "the real path toward a peaceful solution in the Middle East must be based on the Camp David conclusions and not on resolutions whose only objective is to destroy the possibility of bolstering this peace process.

"This process," he reiterated, "is at a delicate point, which deserves and needs the support of the entire international community."

In this context, Shamir commented that Israel "is highly concerned" about the situation in Iran, "because we still don't know the consequences of the uncontrolled process of massive criminality affecting that country."

Shamir reiterated that the Israeli attack on the Tamuz nuclear center in Iraq "helped strengthen stability in the area. It was, as a result, a contribution toward peace in the area.

"The Iraqi atomic reactor was designed to produce atomic weapons in the near term, and its destruction saved the Middle East from entering into a terrible process of destruction at any time," Shamir commented.

Referring to the recent Reagan-Begin talks, he insisted that the United States and Israel "have a common concern to prevent Soviet penetration in the Middle East.

"The U.S. strategic concept," he continued, "calls for U.S. cooperation with countries in the area which share the same concern, because any Soviet penetration would imply a destabilization of the area and would block or undermine the chances to achieve peace."

Referring to the details of strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, Shamir revealed that "the operational realization of this cooperation will be discussed and decided by the two governments, in accordance with the appropriate technical studies."

The Israeli foreign minister refused to comment on the latest problems confronting the government of Sadat in Egypt, merely noting that "there is a peace agreement between Egypt and Israel, and we are convinced that it will be fully honored, despite the particular problems affecting each country."

BRIEFS

BIANNUAL REVENUE--The Finance Ministry has reported that approximately 11 billion sucres were collected in revenue for the period of January to August 1981. This sum does not include income deriving from oil activities, which is collected directly by the Central Bank of Ecuador. [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 12 Sep 81 PA]

INTEGRATION MINISTER ON ECUADOR, ANDEAN PACT

PY131944 Paris AFP in Spanish 2100 GMT 3 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Paipa, Colombia, 3 Sep (AFP)--Peruvian Integration Minister Roberto Percibales who is attending a summit meeting of the Andean Pact nations here, has stated that relations between Ecuador and Peru are excellent. After admitting that those relations were endangered some time ago, Percibales said that the two nations are now engaged in a process of improving the standard of living of their peoples and of seeking a solution to underdevelopment.

After confirming Peru's support for Decision No 24 (statute for foreign capital), the Peruvian minister expressed his confidence that the integration process will be strengthened by the meeting that will end here tomorrow. He pointed out that in the last 12 years the five nations of the Andean Pact have shown an economic growth of 6.6 percent.

He also revealed that, thanks to the Andean Pact, Peruvian trade with the member countries of the agreement has now grown to 1/3 of the total foreign trade of the country.

SOVIET SAILOR SEEKS ASYLUM AT U.S. EMBASSY

PY152037 Paris AFP in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Text] Lima, 15 Sep (AFP)--A Soviet sailor has left the fishing boat on which he had been working and sought asylum at the U.S. Embassy in Lima, sources of this diplomatic mission reported to AFP today.

The event took place at the end of August and was zealously kept confidential. However, the Peruvian Government had been kept advised.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Embassy has reached no decision as yet and is currently going through the appropriate steps to decide whether to grant asylum or not and to enable the interested party to travel to the United States.

ARIAS SENDS GREETINGS TO BOLIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

PY151839 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Text] Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella has sent a telegram congratulating his Bolivian counterpart, Gonzalo Romero Alvarez Garcia, according to a press communique released by the Bolivian Foreign Ministry.

In his telegram to Romero Alvarez Garcia, Arias Stella greeted the former and wished him success in the performance of his duties.

The Bolivian minister has acknowledged receipt of the telegram and reaffirmed his desire to help improve Bolivian-Peruvian relations.

BRIEFS

BUDGET FOR 1982--Lima, Aug 27 (LATIN-REUTER)--The Peruvian Government has submitted a draft of the 1982 budget to Congress. It amounts to 3,121 billion soles ($7.1 billion), a 40-percent increase in comparison with original 1981 budget. The government has estimated that a 6-percent growth will be achieved and that inflation will decrease to 45 percent. The present annual inflation rate is 55 percent. The draft predicts that 34 percent of fiscal funds will be earmarked for paying the foreign debt, while 40 percent will be earmarked for the health and housing areas. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1917 GMT 27 Aug 81 PY]

COSTA RICA

JAMAICAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER ARRIVES

PA140314 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0130 GMT 14 Sep 81

[Text] The Jamaican foreign affairs minister arrived in Costa Rica today accompanied by a small cultural delegation. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Neville Gallimore will remain in the country 3 days. The purpose of his visit is to improve, with direct contacts, the traditional good relations existing between the two countries, the minister said.

Miss Jamaica 1981 [words indistinct] is part of the Jamaican foreign affairs minister's delegation, which will participate in the ceremonies of the 160th independence anniversary Tuesday at the National Stadium.

Details on Purpose of Visit

PA141945 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Sep 81

[Text] Jamaican Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Neville Gallimore has said that dictatorships find it easiest to take over governments when countries are experiencing economic and social crises. He made the statement in reference to the need for every Central American and Caribbean country to be included in an economic and social development aid plan sponsored by the developed countries. He said that the idea of helping these countries should be implemented.

This morning the Jamaican foreign minister will begin a series of activities which include meetings with Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus, President Rodrigo Carazo, as well as with presidential candidates Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, Mario Echandi and with National Liberation Party leader Jose Figueres. Today he will also lay a wreath at the national monument. Tomorrow he will attend the 15 September ceremonies at the National Stadium.

Meeting With President Carazo

PA150041 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Sep 81

[Report by William Cespedes from the Presidential Palace]

[Summary from poor reception] President Rodrigo Carazo is now receiving Jamaican Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Neville Gallimore, who is accompanied by the Jamaican ambassador to Costa Rica, who resides in Mexico, and by Jamaica's minister-adviser in Costa Rica.

Foreign Minister Gallimore, who is now meeting with President Carazo, has made statements to this radio station. He said that Jamaica needs more doctors and dentists and he believes this can be solved with the negotiations that were initiated today. Regarding his meeting with Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus, Gallimore said: "We hope that soon Central American and Caribbean experts will be able to meet."

Foreign Minister Gallimore is discussing the social, economic and political situation of Central America with President Carazo. The two are also discussing the need for integrating the Central American and Caribbean regions, since the two regions have common problems.

Joint Communique

PA162245 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] A joint communique was issued by Jamaica and Costa Rica at the end of the official visit by Dr Neville Gallimore, Jamaican minister of state for foreign affairs, to Costa Rica.

In their communique, the Costa Rican and Jamaican ministers expressed their concern over the growing regional conflicts and the use of violence, which have created an increasingly dangerous situation within the current international environment.

They also expressed their decision to further strengthen the two governments' relationship by increasing their commerical and cultural trade and by strengthening their ties in areas of mutual interest.

The Jamaican Government showed its interest [words indistinct] that Costa Rica will offer technical aid in agriculture and public health to Jamaica during the (?North)-South dialogue. These agreements would be settled at a later date.

Jamaica has shown continuous interest in hiring Costa Rican [word indistinct] and dentists to work in that Caribbean country.

They also discussed matters related to international policy, especially those [words indistinct] with the area.

In another part of the joint communique, the two ministers agreed that the situation in the republic of El Salvador is serious and that it should interest all democratic countries, though based on absolute respect for the principle of nonintervention. They were of the opinion that the sectors involved in that situation must bring the country to a definitive solution via democratic elections of a popular government. In the meantime, though, they should recognize that the government junta represents the legitimate government [words indistinct] reach an agreement with the disputing sectors while carrying out the necessary social reforms during the difficult transition.

EL SALVADOR

GARCIA SAYS CUBAN INTERVENTION HAS BEEN PROVEN

PA170101 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2256 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] San Salvador, 16 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Salvadoran Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia said in a news conference today that the fact that Cuba denies its intervention in the Salvadoran conflict does not mean that it is not real.

"The evidence is clear. We have proven that the weapons for the Salvadoran guerrillas do not come from South American countries but from Nicaragua, which serves as a bridge for another country, since it alone does have enough supplies to provide weapons to the subversives in El Salvador," Garcia added.

The minister added that "Mr Castro has already said that if a political settlement is reached in El Salvador, he pledges to suspend aid to the Salvadoran subversives."

Meanwhile, Rafael Flores Lima, armed forces chief of staff, said that military operations in Usulutan Department are continuing and that the leftists have suffered 50 casualties so far. He added that 4 soldiers were killed and 12 others were wounded.

REBELS SAY U.S. ADVISERS PARTICIPATE IN COMBAT

PA161632 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] U.S. advisers are actively participating in combats, a member of the Salvadoran rebel forces said today. This was corroborated by Radio Venceremos, which recorded the voice of a ranking Yankee soldier giving artillery commands in the Suchitoto fighting.

In an interview published in EL NEUVO DIARIO of Managua, Jorge Melendez of the rebels' general headquarters, asserts that the U.S. ambassador in El Salvador has become the official spokesman for the Christian Democratic junta.

Internationally, this intervention was exposed by the speed with which the North Americans made the dictatorships react against the Mexican-French political recognition of the Salvadoran rebels, Melendez said.

Melendez added that in order to justify their military intervention, the Yankees, together with the junta, are trying to confuse the liberation struggle by making it look like a confrontation between the U.S. and the USSR.

UNIONIST PARTY REJECTS MINI-MARSHALL PLAN

PA160423 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Text] The Central American Unionist Party [PUCA] issued a declaration in El Salvador today announcing its opposition to the Mini-Marshall Plan proposed for Central America and the Caribbean by the United States, Mexico, Canada and Venezuela.

PUCA's decision is based on the fact that while the Mini-Marshall Plan foresees an investment of $20 billion in 20 years, transnational companies operating in Central America will obtain $40 billion during the same period.

VENCEREMOS COMMENTS ON 15 SEPTEMBER CELEBRATION

PA161511 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Today, 15 September, we are commemorating the date of the severance of the colonial ties from Spain. It was thought that breaking those colonial ties would mean definite independence, an end to foreign powers' intervention in our affairs.

Our people thought that on 15 September they had abolished forever their submission to foreign arms and armies and that they were on their way to justice and freedom. It was not long before the Salvadoran oligarchy destroyed those aspirations and turned the country into a prosperous hacienda in which a handful of parasitic families would benefit from the land and work of the majority. It was no long until the newborn U.S. empire appeared to contest with others the colonial spoils from Spain.

Since the 19th century, Central America has been considered the backyard of U.S. monopolist interests. Soon railroad, [word indistinct] and mining companies swarmed over the Central American isthmus. Then came the bankers and loans, accompanied by gunboats to violate our sovereignty. Then came the U.S. Marines to land on our shores. And just as it occurred in Ocotal, the U.S. planes came for the first time to Central America to drop their genocidal bombs on our people.

On this historic date in El Salvador, the country is dependent; its sovereignty is being trampled. El Salvador is attached to Ronald Reagan's warmongering policy. As we commemorate another 15 September, an army occupying our country is being used to spill Salvadoran blood. In this army one out of every nine officers is a U.S. officer.

This is a [words indistinct], an anti-imperialist people's war. In all four corners of the country, our army controls extensive areas. In past military campaigns our people have shown their military ability, their unity in action. Our people have shown that they are determined to win their freedom. Meanwhile, on this 15 September the dictatorship points its bayonets [words indistinct] to force the people to participate in its show [words indistinct] and of shame.

The dictatorship has invited the people to the National Stadium. It is important to note how the junta is celebrating this patriotic date. It is not calling the people to tell them that repression [words indistinct] curfew [words indistinct] nor that it will release political prisoners. It has not said that it will punish the torturers, the assassins of Monsignor Romero and of the members of the Revolutionary Democratic Front, FDR, Executive Committee. It does not call the people to tell them that there is no Salvadoran who does not know how to read and write; or that Salvadoran children will not die of hunger, nor be blown to pieces by U.S. bombs. The dictatorship does not call the people to announce that we have bread, work and justice.

On the contrary, the Christian Democratic-military junta calls the people to the stadium to show them the arms delivered by imperialism, to display its bloodstained bayonets, symbols of imperialist intervention. The dictatorship calls the people to present the Atlacatl counterinsurgency brigade, an elite battalion which was organized by U.S. military advisers and Green Berets, the murderers of the Vietnamese people.

The gorillas of the dictatorship are putting on a show on this day at the stadium in this capital. They will present the air force squad in maneuvers. But they will not present the Death Squad, which keeps them in power through terror. They will not present the most representative expression of their murderous and genocidal nature. The dictatorship will show the people the latest developments in how to massacre the people, which the U.S. military advisers have delivered. Such is the nationalism of the dictatorship that it, on the day of our independence, affronts our sovereignty by displaying its treachery.

Just like in a Roman circus, the dictatorship is exhibiting today its imperial gladiators. And almost certainly, next to Duarte and his military clique will be seated U.S. Ambassador Dean Hinton, like a modern Nero, the superpresident of El Salvador. The fact is that the dictatorship in its deterioration has lost all discretion and on the day of our independence, on a soccer playground, it shows the purulent face of intervention.

While this occurs in the capital, in this same capital, in towns, mountains and roads of our country, there are people hoping and fighting for another 15 September when, with the patriotic fervor of free men and women, Salvadorans will celebrate in plazas and streets.

D'AUBUISSON ON PAST CRIMES, CURRENT ISSUES

PA170054 San Salvador THE NEWS GAZETTE in English 13-19 Sep 81 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] When Major [Roberto] d'Aubuisson was interviewed by THE NEWS GAZETTE last week at his invitation, he vehemently denied his participation in any crimes. "I left the national guard in 1971," he said. "I was in Nicaragua in the command school and in Panama, all on duty. I know nothing of such an organization. I was not involved in this crime." [D'Aubuisson refers to the charge that he was an organizer of the rightist White Warriors Union] (when an informed Salvadoran was asked if d'Aubuisson was thought to be implicated in the death of Archbishop Romero, this possibility was dismissed and the blame was placed on the extreme left. This is precisely the theory that Major d'Aubuisson holds. Major d'Aubuisson declared that he is against violence, that coups d'etat are repugnant to him and pointed out that, as a young officer, he had not participated in the coups of the 1960's.

"Only the armed forces are authorized to use violence to fight violence," he said. "Our duty is to back up the army in its obligation to act against the enemies of the nation.

"This is what we said when we first organized the National Broad Front (FAN). That is our objective: to fight for constitutional government, fight for elections, fight to give the people an opportunity to express themselves and to support the army in maintaining tranquillity and security in our country."

He intends to do this through the electoral process. "We have prepared the ground and established our platform. We are organizing a political party because we are convinced that elections are the only alternative," he said.

"This will clear up many doubts and answer the question that the world is asking: Is it true that the people of El Salvador want a Marxist government or do they want to live in peace, enjoying progress and order; in other words, under the free system of the West?"

His party will be the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA). Major d'Aubuisson explained that he and his associates chose the name with great care.

Many persons are afraid to be identified with the right, or as being a bourgeois. Nevertheless, they declare that they are anticommunist. "When a person says he is nationalist and republican, he cannot be sympathetic to communism."

During the interview, Major d'Aubuisson leveled severe criticism against the Christian Democratic Party and its leadership. He was particularly caustic when he said that they were not governing, but merely taking advantage of their position to perpetuate themselves in power. He even went as far as to say that they would obstruct the electoral process if they did not think they could win. "They might do this by calling for a dialogue with the leftist extremists," he suggested.

Major d'Aubuisson expressed great apprehension that the French-Mexican recognition of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) and the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] as "a representative political force" could encourage the guerrillas to increase attacks and to make an all-out attempt to capture the nation's territory, in which case their international supporters would call for the recognition of a state of belligerency. "Then we would really be involved in a civil war," he said.

USULUTAN CLASH; OCCUPATION OF SAN AUGUSTIN

PA170358 Paris AFP in Spanish 2312 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 16 Sep (AFP)--A military source reported here today that a total of "70 guerrillas and 4 soldiers killed was the final toll of a counterinsurgency operation carried out in Usulutan Department, in the eastern part of the country."

According to the official bulletin, 12 soldiers were wounded in this action, "the first phase of which concluded during the weekend, while the second began immediately after." The results of the latter are not yet known.

The military spokesman also admitted that "the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] guerrillas seized San Agustin, 4 km from the border with Honduras," though noting that "the occupation did not last long. As soon as the army troops arrived, the guerrillas fled to the Honduran border," he stressed. He stated that "in this case, there wasn't even a clash" and that no prisoners were taken by either side.

LEGAL AID REPORTS 10,228 KILLED IN 8 MONTHS

PA162154 Paris AFP in Spanish 1635 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] San Salvador, 16 Sep (AFP)--A total of 10,228 persons have been killed in political violence in El Salvador between January and August of this year, according to a report released today by the Legal Aid Office of the Salvadoran Archbishopric. The document adds that of this total, 1,913 were killed as a result of the martial law or "curfew."

The Legal Aid Office, which keeps statistics on deaths in the country, also disclosed the names of 66 persons "arrested for political motives." Some of these are already free, others are still in prison, but the majority, the report indicates, "are missing."

The report adds that "the real number of persons arrested is larger" and that the figure indicated only reflects the cases that have been announced before the Legal Aid Office, which renders legal assistance to the relatives of persons arrested or missing. These arrests, according to the Legal Aid Office, occurred last August.

BRIEFS

U.S. VISIT DISCUSSION TOPICS -- A military source disclosed that economic and military aid will be one of the topics to be discussed by junta President Napoleon Duarte in his tour of the United States next week. "But we will not ask for advisers," the military spokesman explained. There are currently several dozen U.S. military advisers in El Salvador. They give antiguerrilla training to the army of the government junta. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in Spanish 2312 GMT 16 Sep 81 PA]

GUATEMALA

REPORTAGE ON GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES, CONSEQUENCES

CORFINA Building Bombed

PA170401 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] A high-powered bomb exploded last night, destroying the ground floor of the National Financial Corporation [Corporacion Financiera Nacional--CORFINA] Building, located on 8th Avenue between 10th and 11th Streets in Zone 1, Guatemala City. The explosion also damaged several other buildings in the area, including the Banco Inmobiliario.

Two members of CORFINA'S security corps were seriously injured and were rushed to Social Clinic #1 for medical attention.

The Banco Inmobiliario, which is located a short distance away, also sustained damage, as did other buildings and commercial establishments in the area. So far, no assessment has been made of the damage caused by this new terrorist action. The voluntary fire corps put four units into action to provide the required assistance.

Violence Increases in North

PA162324 Paris AFP in Spanish 2023 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 16 Sep (AFP)--A total of 46 Guatemalan peasants were killed during the last 24 hours in the northeastern part of the country, an official source in this capital reported today. The same source said that 32 were found today in the village of El Rancho, El Progreso Department. The other 14 were found yesterday in Rabinal, Baja Verapaz Department. The same source added that all of the victims showed signs of having been tortured and some of having received purposely fatal wounds, which leads to the belief that they were victims of the political violence that has recently erupted in northeast Guatemala.

So far, the persons who committed these crimes have not been identified.

There has been a noticeable increase in political violence since in the north of Guatemala since last weekend. According to official estimates, losses due to guerrilla activities and sabotage are already over $8 million.

HONDURAS

MEXICO TO GIVE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT, CREDIT

PA170206 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1513 GMT 15 Sep 81

[By Armando Cerrato]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 15 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Mexico will give broad preferential treatment to Honduras in economic, cultural, oil and technical aid, it was officially announced today in Tegucigalpa.

Honduran President Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia ended a 28-hour visit to Mexico yesterday, during which he reached several agreements with his counterpart, Jose Lopez Portillo, who showed himself to be very receptive.

A $4 million credit agreement was signed with the National Bank of Mexico. This credit will help stimulate the expansion of the Honduran Cement Company, which the Honduran Government endorses.

It was explained that a credit line is needed to supply fuels and propane gas, by expanding the agreements that Honduras has already signed with Mexico.

Honduras also requested credits for the construction of roads in forestry areas. Mexico has promised to study this request. The amount of these credits has not been disclosed, but they will be channeled through the Inter-American Development Bank.

Mexico's Foreign Trade Bank will also open a credit line--for an amount still subject to negotiation--for the Agricultural Development Bank of Honduras. This credit line will be used to develop agriculture.

Mexico will train Honduran personnel in oil administration, tax aspects of the oil sector and the refining of crude oil.

Honduras and Mexico will also endorse the efforts of the Mexican-Honduran business committee so that Mexican businesses can open factories in Honduras, invest capital and impelement technology in the areas of agriculture, cattle breeding, industry and commerce.

Mexico has also agreed to completely open its markets to Honduran exports, at a tax rate of only 25 percent. In the case of products that must be taxes at 100 percent, the remaining 75 percent will revert to Honduras.

Honduran officials also managed to clear up the Mexican media's confused image of Honduras.

In the political arena, the Mexicans said that they admire Honduras' electoral process and recognize the country's social stability.

DELEGATION SEEKING FINANCIAL AID VISITS CANADA

PA101305 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Sep 81

[Excerpt] A Honduran Government delegation led by Honduran Foreign Secretary Cesar Elvir Sierra left at noon yesterday for Canada. The mission includes (Efrain Reconco Murillo), executive secretary of the Higher Council of Economic Planning (Censejo Superior de Planificacion Economica--CONSULPLAN]. The mission will explore financing possibilities for more projects of general interest to Hondurans, as was announced by mission member (Reconco Murillo]:

[Begin recording] A few months ago the president sent a letter of appreciation to the Canadian Government, whose agencies are giving important financing and support to various farming development programs in Honduras, especially in the Guayape Valley. Canada is also providing assistance in the mining field.

In response to the president's letter, the Canadian prime minister invited the Honduran Government to send a mission to discuss other types of financing and support by that country. We are taking some projects, some of which we had begun negotiating several months ago with a Canadian mission that visited us. We also have some new projects which we will present to see if they can finance them. Some of these projects, such as the Interoceanic Railroad are under study by the Canadian Government. We will again solicit their opinion. When we initially broached the subject, they viewed it with much enthusiasm and told us that they were sure their government would finance it.

U.S. TRAWLER CREW DETAINED FOR DRUG SMUGGLING

PA121749 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1450 GMT 12 Sep 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Navy today identified three U.S. citizens detained Thursday in Honduran territorial waters for carrying 18,000 pounds of marijuana in a trawler. The U.S. citizens are Jesus Eugenio Salgado, 19 years old and a resident of Key West, Florida; James Mike Owens, 28, a native of New Jersey; and Ray Weatherinton, 54, who hails from Miami and is captain of the ship. The trawler, named "Captain KC," bears license No 59611 and is owned by the St Augustine Trawlers of St Augustine in the state of Florida.

Jesus Eugenio Salgado, who initially claimed not to speak Spanish, speaks the language with a Cuban accent and was the one who testified to the Honduran authorities. He said that the marijuana that they carried on the high seas, some 150 miles north of Aruba, was intended for the Gulf of Mexico, but he did not know to whom it belonged or who would have picked it up. Salgado claimed that he and his two buddies are "rookies" in the transporation of marijuana, that they were going to be paid $50,000 in all for the trip and that they entered Honduran territorial waters unknowingly.

The marijuana is stored in 480 large bundles and its total weight is 18,000 pounds. The gross value of the drug is estimated at $7 million in Honduras. The drug traffickers and the drugs have been turned over to the Honduran courts and it is believed that U.S. authorities will request their extradition.

SOCIALIST PARTY CHARGES LEADER CARIAS IS MISSING

PA170057 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1446 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 15 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Socialist Party, PASO, today announced that Marco Virgilio Carias, the party's primary leader and founder, is missing. The PASO political commission said that "Carias was arrested on 12 September in the city of El Paraiso, in the eastern part of the country, on a traffic violation charge."

PASO added that "Carias was accompanied by his wife, Perla, and by Rogelio Martinez Reina, who were taken with him to a police station and arrainged as common criminals."

PASO said that they were arrested by members of G-2, the Honduran Army military intelligence department, but that neither the police nor the military department will now admit that they know anything about the prisoners.

PASO demands absolute respect for the physical integrity of Carias and (Martinez Reina). Carias' wife was released after she was processed by the authorities. PASO announced that it has taken every step to denounce, both locally and internationally, the arrest of its leaders.

Carias is well known in the country and abroad. He was vice rector of the National Autonomous University of Honduras, UNAH, and is currently the director of UNAH's Institute of Economic and Social Investigations; he is also the author of several books on economy.

NICARAGUA

WHEELOCK VISIT TO MEXICO IMPROVES RELATIONS

PA160428 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Text] The visit to Mexico by Commander Jaime Wheelock has created a closer relationship between this country and Nicaragua. The improvement of bilateral relations and ties of cooperation, along with an exchange of opinions on regional problems and the North-South dialogue, were the main topics of the talks between the Nicaraguan delegation led by Revolutionary Commander Jaime Wheelock and Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo.

The meeting held at Mexico City was also attended by Nicaraguan Central Bank president Alfredo Cesar, Finance Minister Joaquin Cuadra and Companero Jose Leon Talavera of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] International Relations Department.

Wheelock also met with the new president of the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI] (Abdiel) Garcia Paniagua, and reached agreements on strengthening of relations between the PRI and the FSLN.

Taking advantage of the Honduran president's presence in Mexico, Commander Wheelock held a private meeting with him, discussing matters related to the dialogue between these two countries, to overcome existing problems. The meeting was considered very positive.

Later Commander Wheelock held a news conference in which he said that Mexican-Nicaraguan relations were excellent and expressed the Nicaraguan position on the forthcoming Cancun conference. He said he hoped that the international crisis will not be used by capitalist countries to pressure underdeveloped countries.

He also gave extensive information on the social-economic emergency situation decreed in Nicaragua. He said that the ample popular support of the revolution is the best guarantee for successfully confronting it.

NEW CUBAN TEACHERS GROUP ARRIVES IN MANAGUA

PA162127 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] This morning the Ministry of Education, the Sandinist front and the National Association of Nicraguan Teachers, ANDEN, greeted the 130 members of the Cesar Augusto Sandino Teachers Group of Cuba, who arrived here today to join in the educational programs being promoted by the Sandinist revolution.

The Cuban teachers were greeted by Vice Minister of Education Francisco Guzman; Carlos Carrion, representing the Sandinist front; and Milena Nunez, ANDEN secretary general.

In his message to the 130 Cuban teachers, speaking in the name of the FSLN National Leadership, Carrion said that the Cuban teachers were not here to help us, but in dedication to the Cuban revolution and to serve as an example in the training of our teachers and Nicaraguan children.

Carrion told the Cuban teachers that they are coming to a nation that is smaller and poorer than most others in the world, but which has much dignity. He noted that the Cuban teachers may rest assured that there has been peasant and worker bloodshed wherever they may be sent to work. He added that Nicaragua is living through difficult and dangerous times, in view of the imminence of armed aggression by the enemies of the revolution but that the people do not fear threats and will always be prepared to defend the nation's sovereignty and independence.

DELEGATION TO BELIZE INDEPENDENCE EVENT ANNOUNCED

PA170450 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] The Foreign Affairs Ministry disclosed this afternoon that it has appointed an official delegation to attend Belize's independence event. The Foreign Affairs Ministry press official told this station that the delegation will leave Managua at 1000 on Sunday and will be seen off by top Foreign Ministry officials.

The delegation comprises Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, foreign affairs minister; Commander William Ramirez, minister of the Atlantic Coast; Ernesto Cardenal, culture minister; Ramiro Contreras, protocol director; Commander Julio Ramos, member of the general staff of the Sandinist People's Army; (Ramon Jelli Valle), a Foreign Affairs Ministry official; (Henry Smith Catfish), a Foreign Affairs Ministry official; (Jose Vigil) of the Public Relations Office of the Government Palace; and (Irving Davila), member of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] Directorate for International Relations.

FOREIGN MINISTER D'ESCOTO RETURNS FROM ABROAD

PA162121 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto met at noon today with his advisers, who briefed him on the latest events in the country. The foreign minister had just returned from his tour of Libya and the UN General Assembly, where the case of Namibia was given special treatment.

Father d'Escoto is expected to hold a press conference to inform the Nicaraguan people about the results of his trip.

Foreign Ministry sources revealed that Father d'Escoto is preparing to participate in Belize's independence ceremonies on 21 September.

RUIZ SPEAKS TO UNIONS ON EMERGENCY MEASURES

PA160405 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 11 Sep 81 pp 1, 6

[Text] Henry Ruiz, minister of planning and commander of the revolution, told over 600 delegates from unions in Managua affiliated with the Sandinist Workers Federation (CST) last night that anyone arrested on suspicion of embezzling--stealing--from the state will be sentenced to from 1 to 3 years' imprisonment, since healthy criticism [sana critica] replaces the process of proof during these times.

The revolutionary leader's statement was received with great enthusiasm by the representatives of labor unions from productive centers and from the National Employees Union (UNE) committees of state organizations. They were all attending the meeting called by the Managua CST at the Maestro Gabriel Institute, where the "heroes and martyrs of September" labor union plenary session was held.

At the meeting, Commander Ruiz explained the government's reasons for declaring a state of economic and social emergency in the country. Attending the session as guests were Guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez and Companero Agustin Lara of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] Departmental Leadership Committee (CDD) in Managua.

The planning minister mentioned the measures to be adopted under the state of emergency against those guilty of defrauding the state, in answering a question from a worker about sinecures [supernumerarios] and the status of government enterprises and agencies.

The commander explained that state bureaucracy is not just a question of sinecures, but also involves problems of lack of discipline and control. "In the state, everyone does what he wishes. That is why the emergency law eliminates appeal to administrative measures," he said.

Suspicion Will Be Enough

The minister expanded his statements by saying that instances of fraud and indiscipline will be considered even when no definitive proof exists in the case, because under the state of emergency suspicion is enough for a person to be condemned to from 1 to 3 years for embezzlement.

This measure is due, he said, to the fact that a new society is being formed, while judges, policemen, employees and so forth are still being bribed here and the state has not had the political authority to control those situations.

"That is why these measures are designed to trap squanderers. This will give the comptroller's office more work, but the mecanisms have been simplified," the minister said.

Commander Ruiz gave an example: An employee of the comptroller's office who was sent to a private company detected maladministration on the part of the owner, whereupon he was offered a bribe. The employee played along until the police arrested the owner, who was later released for lack of evidence. However, the government employee had to flee the country because of constant threats from that person.

Commander Ruiz emphasized that such situations cannot be allowed to continue in Nicaragua.

The Problem of the Technicians

Responding to another question from a worker about the high salaries paid technicians, Ruiz said it must be taken into account that a great number of them are emigrating. He also noted that a great number of students and domestic workers are leaving, although he did not understand the reasons for emigration by the latter group. He said that some 400 agricultural technicians have left, perhaps due to their petit bourgeois sensitivities, because the workers do not call them "sir" and question them instead.

Ruiz said that the technicians represent the skilled workforce in the division of labor and that it is necessary to retain them in the country, since an entire generation will be necessary to create technicians with a new mentality. He mentioned that there are technicians in Nicaragua who even earn as much as $4,000, but said that they are involved in special programs donated to the government by international organizations.

In view of this, he urged workers to contribute to the education of professionals, since the process needs them. "The worker has to persuade the technician like a brother," he said.

Unity of Workers To Face the Storm

Returning to the announcement of the revolutionary measures that regulate the state of emergency, Commander Ruiz said that with the unity of workers, this revolution will attain its goals, just as pain and difficulty lead to conquests.

He urged the workers to move toward a single labor federation, as it is inconceivable that there should be federations in the country with an ideology totally different from that of the working class.

"I cannot understand," he said, the positions of the Nicaraguan Workers Federation (CTN), which is more recalcitrant than the businessmen behind it. He concluded: Why can't we form a firmly united bloc to confront that storm?

The Reason For the Measures

In explaining the revolutionary measures, the planning minister said that they respond to a particular situation: a complex international juncture, the capitalist economic crisis in the area and the fact that the country cannot be administered on the basis of the assumption that a normal situation exists on the continent.

Moreover, he said that economic trade relationships constitute a long-term job. Regarding the measures involving the working class, he said that they are necessary to raise the organizational level of work and are good for the revolutionary government.

Commander Ruiz said that these measures do not affect workers and peasants because they are not boycotting production. The measures are directed against the transnational, turncoat bourgeoisie.

"The package is being adopted to avoid more drastic measures," he said. At the same time, he explained that the rumors of a devaluation of the cordoba are false, since this measure would affect the workers. Hence, the value of the currency is being controlled.

If these measures are described as repressive, he said, it is precisely because, since the workers are the subjects of the revolution, these measures will be used to mark a new era in labor organization.

It Is Necessary To Work Harder, To Do a Day's Work

The commander urged the workers to work harder, because that is the formula for "eating better tomorrow." If the workers, he said, are to be capable of forging the future, an effort must be made and the word sacrifice must be the workers' donation to the new organization.

For this reason, he said, attention must be paid to austerity, and vigilance must be exercised over administrative expenses, though the day's work must be done. Efforts, he said, must increase, because the present trade balance has to be maintained since the dollar that is being brought in is much more expensive.

Ruiz said that "we must now administer these emergency laws, for this is not the first revolution to take two steps backward in order to take a sure step forward."

WORKERS URGE SUPPORT FOR EMERGENCY MEASURES

PA162216 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 11 Sep 81 p 9

[Statement released by the Sandinist Workers Federation; no date given]

[Text] To: the working class, our brothers in the rural areas and all the people.

We are announcing our position after learning about our country's difficult socioeconomic situation and about the measures announced on Wednesday 9 September by our vanguard, the FSLN, and by the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction [GRN] to confront the situation. The measures establish a state of economic and social emergency whose major thrust is geared at the defense of the revolution and at the defense of our people in the struggle to leave backwardness and poverty behind without ever kneeling before the threats and aggressions of imperialism and their servants. This position results from the feelings expressed by the representatives of unions throughout the country, who gathered on Monday, 7 September, to hear the report on our problems prepared by the FSLN's National Directorate and by the GRN.

The entire capitalist system is experiencing an unprecendented economic crisis. The dependent and backward countries of the so-called Third World however, are being hardest hit because they must buy oil, raw materials, input, machinery and products for domestic consumption.

The prices of these products are increasingly higher, making the foreign debt unbearable. A large part of what we produce must be used to pay installments and interest on that debt.

In Latin America the crisis is furiously hitting all oil-buying countries, causing them to increase their foreign debt. There have even been extreme cases: For example, Costa Rica has declared bankruptcy. Several Latin American countries are requesting the renegotiation of their foreign debt.

Our country, which has experienced a devastating earthquake and a bloody and highly destructive war, not only feels the impact of the oil crisis, of the low production of exports and of the high public debt, but is also being directly attacked because the United States has canceled its loans and aid for 1980, 1981 and 1982.

We are at a decisive moment: Either we raise our heads very high in order to emerge from this situation with dignity and through sacrifices, or we kneel before Yankee imperialism so it can subject us to its traditional plundering, exploitation and national humiliation; maintaining its unconditioanl support in exchange for the exploitation of our wealth and for the freedom to oppress our people.

Our people, the people of Sandino, of Rigoberto and Carlos, made their decision when they expelled the last marine, when they defeated the genocidal national guard, that army of occupation. Our people made their decision when they decided to build a new and increasingly just society until they could put an end to the exploitation of man by man. We will never go back, nor will we ever kneel except to take aim.

The announcement about the implementation of an economic and social emergency law represents a great and historic responsibility, which is assumed by all of Sandino's people. The law affects all social classes. It tightens the state's belt, for its expenses will be drastically reduced. Businessmen's belts will also be tightened, for their operations will not remain uncontrolled. On the contrary, their operations must be very clear in order to check those who are responsible for capital depletion. Luxury consumption will also be affected and tax evasion will be punished. A great political responsibility for the future of our revolution obliges the union movement to define its position even more categorically against work stoppages, seizures and strikes. The first and second assemblies for the unity of workers had already defined these as measures of last resort. Now in view of the problems outlined, we will not be able to resort to them for the duration of the state of economic and social emergency.

The national economic emergency means that we will go through a period in which wage increases will not be the immeidate solution, but rather the preservation of jobs. The number of jobs runs the risk of being seriously reduced if the country is forced to close companies for lack of currency. This is the principal concern and struggle of our people and their vanguard: trying to keep the productive apparatus functioning with the largest number of workers, making the maximum use of material resources, increasing efficiency and savings and preparing ourselves for the possibility of more unemployment or an external aggression.

In view of the tension that these measures might create, we workers must increase our revolutionary vigilance against all sabotage and provocation and against the attempts to bring about capital depletion made by elements who are not in step with the process.

We workers must make the biggest sacrifices in this emergency situation. It could be no other way. Our people's future depends primarily on the heroism, dedication, sacrifice, revolutionary awareness and capacity of the working class and of our peasant brothers. As Sandino once said, our forces are ones which "...will go to the end." Only our organized forces will triumph.

Today more than ever we workers must join the militias in order to defend the production centers, our neighborhoods, our fatherland.

Our people's inexhaustible energies, their peerless courage, their resistance and their belief in the idea of a free fatherland or death, constitute a guarantee that we will build a new fatherland whether the eternal oppressors of mankind like it or not.

We are preparing for the maximum sacrifices that the working class can make alongside our poor and middle-class peasant brothers, the small and medium-sized urban producers and all the working people.

We urge all workers and the federations which make up the Nicaraguan labor coordination organization to assume the historical commitment to defend the revolution and to support our GRN in the implementation of the emergency measures. This is necessary to confront the current critical situation and to gradually emerge from it while maintaining the high revolutionary principles of the Sandinist people's revolution.

We urge the entire Nicaraguan union movement to become thoroughly familiar with the scope of and the need for these measures announced by the GRN and by the FSLN's National Directorate so that no doubts remain and no hesitation is introduced regarding the single monolithic line that must be followed by the labor movement in order to place ourselves at the head of all classes and social echelons, injecting them with our revolutionary and combative spirit.

We alert our working and peasant class and all detachments of workers so they will close ranks against the demagogues and opportunists who seek to create false expectations and confusion, while separating the mass movement from its vanguard, the FSLN and the GRN, which at the government level fulfill the tasks imposed on them by the revolution.

We urge all union leaders to place themselves at the forefront of the rank and file in order to explain the situation to them, dispel any doubts and maintain direct ties in order to organize actions which will maintain a high proletarian morale, order and discipline in confronting our problems.

Let us close ranks around our vanguard, the FSLN, for the defense of the revolution and of our economy.

CORDOVA RIVAS PRAISES REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS

PA161630 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] Dr Rafael Cordoba Rivas, member of the Nicaraguan junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said that the Battle of San Jacinto, in which Nicaraguan patriots defeated the U.S. invaders, established a bulwark in Latin America against the imperialists' desire to enslave.

The victory on 14 September 1856 was the beginning of the anti-imperialist struggle which culminated on 19 July 1979, the junta member said.

National unity defeated U.S. expansionism 125 years ago and it will crush the domestic and foreign reaction which is trying to obstruct the advancement of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, Dr Cordova Rivas said.

TEACHERS, GOVERNMENT SIGN NEW COLLECTIVE CONTRACT

PA161550 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Fifteen thousand teachers have benefitted from the signing of a collective contract. These are positive achievements guaranteed by the revolution.

The contract, signed yesterday afternoon by Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman, by Companera Milena Nunez Tellez for the National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers [ANDEN] and approved by Labor Minister Virgilio Godoy, is an advance for the teachers grouped in ANDEN.

The contract will benefit 15,000 teachers, both of primary and secondary level, who during the time of Somozism were the victims of deceit. Now with the revolution they can have economic, cultural social and professional improvement.

The agreement was signed on a historic date such a yesterday, 14 September, the 129th anniversary of the first defeat inflicted on Yankee expansionism in the glorious San Jacinto Battle. This demonstrates that peoples can achieve their aspirations when there is maturity.

All the demands which were denied the organized teachers in the past are now effective in the revolutionary process, Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman stated:

[Begin recording] This contract is important because it is the first which clearly defines the relations between ANDEN and the Education Ministry and which clearly defines all the demands which the organized teachers have made historically and which are now granted by the revolutionary government, within the context of the budgetary and economic limitations which we live. Nevertheless, this contract demonstrates the great importance attached in our country to the teachers organization. It also recognizes the important task which they are carrying out in restructuring education in the new Nicaragua. [end recording]

BRIEFS

MEXICAN SEED DONATION--The Mexican Government delivered a donation of fortified corn and rice seeds today to help our national food program. The donation was presented by Mexican Ambassador Julio Zamora Batiz, who said that this was the first stage of a vast program covered by a Mexican-Nicaraguan cooperation agreement. Zamora explained that the program also includes technical assistance and coinvestment projects, and is intended to increase food production not only to satisfy domestic demands but for export to the area as well. He added that the first part of the program includes farming machinery and technicians, collapsible warehouses that can be installed in different locations and other equipment, the total value being $6 million. [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Sep 81 PA]

DELEGATION TO BULGARIA--A Nicaraguan delegation arrived in Bulgaria to discuss the utilization of an $18-million loan granted by that country. The delegation, led by Industry Minister Emilio Baltodano, will discuss installation of a food processing plant and similar projects. [Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 15 Sep 81 PA]

FIDEL CASTRO SCORES U.S. IN IPU SPEECH

FL151700 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1452 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Speech by Cuban President Fidel Castro opening the 68th Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference at Havana's Palace of Conventions--live]

[Text] Presiding officers, distinguished parliamentarians:

We are meeting in uncertain times. I am not overlooking the diversity of criteria and ideologies that are represented in this room, but I assume that we share a common concern over the fate of the world since each of our respective fatherlands and the peoples who live there have a sacred place in our hearts. I extend you all our warmest welcome to our country.

Perhaps my words will not be pleasant to some but they are not intended to offend anyone. I limit myself to frankly expressing my viewpoints based on facts which I consider to be objective and I cannot fail to pass judgment on certain governments and policies. In so doing I am not criticizing peoples, but governments and those who may disagree with me will have ample opportunity respond to my words from this very forum where they will be heard with the greatest respect. After all, within the framework of any conference, those speaking at the end always have the advantage of making fresh statements when many no longer remember the words of those who spoke earlier.

I will start by discussing the world's economic issues. We have time and again insisted on the fact that deeply rooted in the problem of peace--the main concern of all peoples in the world--lies the socioeconomic injustice that prevails on our planet. No solutions will be found to the tensions, contradictions and political conflicts that threaten and jeopardize international relations until a new economic order that would promote the peoples' integrated development and would reduce the gap existing among nations is established in the world.

The world's economic situation is marked by the evident gap existing between developed and underdeveloped nations. Hundreds of millions of human beings living in countries which account for more than 3/4's of the world population are enduring poverty, famine, disease and ignorance. Until this dramatic situation endured by the immense majority of mankind is solved through the establishment of new world economic relations based on equity and justice, little progress will be made of the path to an effective, durable peace.

The accelerated deterioration of the world's economy which has taken place in recent years and its dramatic impact on Third World countries prompted an anxious search for formulas to first stop and then reverse a trend which was forcing most countries into an unsolved economic crisis with the serious, dangerous consequences this situation might entail for everyone from the social and political standpoint.

Thus the idea of a program for a new world economic order emerged in 1974 in the midst of the worst economic capitalist crisis--occurring in 1974 and 1975--of the postwar era. After a short-lived recovery that took place in 1976, this crisis followed a course which was marked by the instability and weakness of recovery processes, trends of recessive relapses, the worsening of economic-monetary rivalries, unbridled, mounting inflation. Due to its characteristics, persistence and seriousness, this crisis reflected the overall crisis of the capitalist system which became evident through its inability to find answers to overcome its own imbalances, growing inter-imperialist contradictions and the collapse of the neocolonialist system that emerged in the postwar era.

This crisis also stimulated the capitalist need to increase its profit levels, which is much more difficult now than ever before in the postwar era because it is largely dependent on the increased imperialist exploitation of the underdeveloped world. No answer has been given to this dramatic, increasingly serious situation and absolutely no progress has been made in establishing a new international economic order, which is a matter of life and death for Third World countries.

The U.S. Government has aggravated the world crisis by increasing its interest rates to unprecedented levels. On the one hand, it has increased the cost of money in the Yankee domestic economy in order to reduce its pace in the belief that it would thus be able to limit and even eliminate inflation. On the other hand, it seeks--and it has achieved this objective--to attract from Europe, through more lucrative interest rates, not only the Eurodollars which had been irresponsibly dumped into the European market to finance the Vietnam war, but also monetary resources from the FRG, France, Great Britain, Italy and other EEC countries, thus affecting even more the economies of its Western allies themselves.

The United States has thus weakened its competitors, caused in essence, the devaluation of their currency, made the U.S. technology imported by these countries and the petroleum they receive from third countries more expensive, but made European products cheaper to U.S. buyers. The EEC has been forced to adopt emergency economic measures. The clear, energetic protest voiced by President Mitterrand conveys a sentiment shared by the states that take part in the EEC. Several countries of the Third World have also experienced the draining of their convertible currency which were absorbed by the high interest rates of Yankee banks, which in turn increased to unbearable levels the sums to be paid for servicing the renewed, growing and monstrous debt of underdeveloped countries.

If the capitalist economic crisis marked by endemic stagnation, inflation, unemployment, squandering and distortion is considered serious, much more serious and unbearable is the economic situation of the underdeveloped world which is in part a magnified reflection of the capitalist crisis itself.

Developed capitalist countries have transferred and extended the basic elements of their economic crisis to underdeveloped countries. The growing dependency of the so-called Third World economies on industrialized countries deeply accentuates the negative effects that present trade relations have on Third World countries. International private banking and financial and monetary institutions play a major role in this stepped-up process of deterioration. Along with a greater opening of these countries to economic, financial and technological penetration by multinational companies. This has led them to circumstances of total economic strangulation and financial paralysis from which there is no escape.

Thus, the ratio of trade prices, along with the freezing or real depreciation of the prices of raw materials and products from underdeveloped countries, to the increasing prices of manufactured goods and services from industrialized countries, the high rates of interest on the increasingly limited sources of outside financing and galloping inflation, are some of the basic elements of the crisis.

All of this, along with the extraordinary increase of petroleum prices, the accelerated growth of the population in these countries, the stagnation or reversal of agricultural production, the almost total absence of industrial and technological development, has led the underdeveloped world to an unprecedented degree of indebtedness, poverty, dependence and economic strangulation. The external debt of the so-called Third World, according to official data from the International Payments Bank, amounted in 1981 to more than $500 billion and projections were that this amount would increase day by day.

For example, Latin America's external debt, which amounted to $10 billion in 1965, rose to $150 billion in early 1980. So that you may have an idea of the crushing weight of the increase in the value of imports, essentially determined by inflation in industrialized countries and the hike in petroleum prices, suffice it to say that in this region in 1978 the change in prices meant an overall increase in the real value of imports in relation to 1978 prices of $14,442,000,000 for fuels and $25,304,000,000 for manufactured imports.

Likewise, while the value of net imports of fuels in 1973 was 8.4 percent of the total importation of goods, that proportion rose in 1979 to 23.8 percent. The social effects of these realities is expressed in the enormous magnitude of the extreme poverty, illiteracy and unemployment of the continent's large masses.

Overall, the public debt of the world's underdeveloped countries grew at an average yearly rate of approximately 21 percent from 1970 to 1980. On debt service alone, our countries paid $44.2 billion in 1979. The only thing that can be compared today to this amount are the world's military expenditures, which also amount to the maddening figure of $500 billion.

Moreover, the process of imperialist penetration by means of its investments in the Third World amounted between 1970 and 1978 to $42.2 billion, which is not enough for a feeble and dependent development. U.S. investments in the underdeveloped world amounted in this period to $8,701,000,000. Capitalist Europe had invested, in this same period, some $8 billion in Africa. Total foreign investments in this continent were in excess of $11 billion. Yet, in that same period, the profits from underdeveloped countries by multinational companies amounted to an extraordinary $100,218,000,000. Which means that for each new dollar invested during this period, approximately $2.4 were taken out in shared profit. The profits of the United States from the aforementioned investments rose to $39,685,000,000 which represents an earning of $4.5 for each new dollar invested.

A simple figure eloquently illustrates the inequality to which we refer. It is supplied by the World Bank no less, one of the institutions created by the neocolonial powers to guarantee their financial hegemony. According to this source, the GNP per capita in a select group of 18 developed capitalist countries amounted to $8,070 whereas 38 of the lowest income countries showed a GNP per capita of $200. The medium-income group's GNP per capita was $1,250. In other words, developed capitalist countries in 1978 had a GNP per capita 6.5 times higher than that of the medium-income countries and 40 times higher than that of the poorest underdeveloped countries.

Today, 10 years after the program was launched for a new international economic order, the huge and growing gap between developed and underdeveloped countries and the extreme misery in the latter is reaching its most extreme stage. Never before in the history of mankind has the underdeveloped world found itself subjected to such a high degree of exploitation, economic strangulation and misery as at the present time. Never before had the poor of the earth been so poor and exploited. Their growing mass cannot even hope for a subsistence economy and the most elemental living conditions.

We can sum up these dramatic realities: developed countries, with only 25 percent of the world's population, have 83 percent of the world's GNP, consume 75 percent of the energy and 70 percent of the grain, possess 92 percent of the world's industry and 95 percent of the technological resources. In addition, they employ 89 percent of the world's education expenditures. If the present is tragic, the future looms darkly. The world population is now 4.4 billion inhabitants. Of these, 75 percent belong to the underdeveloped countries. According to various projections carried out in recent years by several specialized agencies, the world population will reach nearly 6.4 billion inhabitants by the year 2000. This represents an increase of 55 percent in the course of the last 25 years as much as in the first 1,950 years of our era. More than 90 percent of that growth will take place in the underdeveloped world. This means that in 2000, 80 percent of the world population--some 5.12 billion of human beings--will live in underdeveloped countries. Of every five inhabitants on earth then, four will live in that world.

Recent studies have estimated that in 2,000 the GNP per capita will average $2,311 worldwide at constant 1975 values. This means a worldwide increase of 53 percent in relation to 1975. Yet in developed countries the GNP per capita will rise to almost $8,500 while it will be less than 590 dollars in the underdeveloped world.

For every dollar increase in the per capita GDP in underdeveloped countries, an overall $20 increase is projected in developed countries. In the year 2,000, the average personal income will be more than 14 times higher in developed countries. If we were to take the per capita GDP in a group of the most powerful developed capitalist countries as a point of comparison, the proportion will rise to almost 20 times. That is, the wide gap existing today between the developed and underdeveloped world will have doubled by the year 2,000.

If in 1975 the difference in per capita GDP between the two groups of countries was on the order of $4,000, this difference will rise to approximately $8,000 in the year 2000. If it is true that the situation of inequality in our days is already flagrant and we could say outrageous, we can imagine how deep the abyss separating the richest and poorest countries will be in 20 years.

The food situation of the Third World is already serious. The average inhabitant of an underdeveloped country has the possibility of obtaining 33 percent fewer calories in his diet than does a person in a developed country. According to conservative estimates of the FAO, nearly 450 million human beings of the underdeveloped world will suffer from serious malnutrition, that is, they are hungry. Several hundreds of millions more are undernourished. The per capita consumption in developed countries is 6 times higher in animal proteins, 4.5 times higher in fats, 2.3 times higher in cereal grains and 6 times higher in milk. All these indicators and many more that could be mentioned can be summed up in only one word: famine. Famine is today the most distressing human drama that afflicts the peoples of the underdeveloped world. Millions of lives are lost every year and many more millions of people are unable to fully develop their abilities due to famine.

Due to the concentration of developed countries on the necessary investments and technology, crop yields in those countries have in recent years doubled that of underdeveloped countries and the manpower productivity in the agricultural sector was nine times higher. The per capita food supply increased 3.2 times more in developed countries than in underdeveloped countries. In the next 20 years vast underdeveloped regions will lack the adequate food supply to allow children to achieve normal physical and mental growth and adults to enjoy their full capability and good health.

For instance, food consumption in countries of Central Africa is projected at 20 percent under the minimum levels proposed by the FAO. According to the World Bank, the number of undernourished people in underdeveloped countries will increase in this brief period to the dramatic figure of 1.3 billion, that is, almost 3 times higher than current estimates. One of every four inhabitants of the underdeveloped world will be hungry. A number of people equivalent to the overall current population of the underdeveloped countries will be unable to adequately feed themselves. Furthermore, several studies conducted by the FAO and other institutions estimate that the man-land ratio in underdeveloped countries will decline from the 0.9 hectare of cultivable land per person that prevailed by the middle of the 1970s to 0.5 hectare. If a person is today fed by nearly 1 hectare of land in underdeveloped countries, this same hectare will have to feed two persons 20 years from now.

Logically, from the standpoint of production, the only way of preventing a further deterioration of the currently unsatisfactory situation of food supply per person is by increasing the food supply faster than the increase in the number of people to be fed.

However, an examination of recent trends demonstrates that the rate of growth of foodstuff production in the underdeveloped world has been reduced to a level that barely surpasses the rate of demographic growth. If the well-known situations dealing with the unequal distribution of income in the immense majority of underdeveloped countries is added to that, the magnitude of the problem being faced by the great masses of population of the underdeveloped world can be easily recognized with respect to hunger and undernourishment in the near future. Another situation of great significance, not only from the economic point of view, but also with respect to ecological balance and the preservation of the environment, is the one dealing with the destruction of forests.

Between 18 and 20 million hectares of forests are disappearing every year, the largest part in the tropical regions of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The total forest area of the world, which in 1978 comprised more than 2.5 billion hectares, will be reduced by 450 million by the year 2000; that is by almost 1/5.

Now then, practically 100 percent of that reduction will take place in underdeveloped countries, which will lose approximately 40 percent of their forest area. The loss of the forests will force large masses of population in underdeveloped countries to pay increasingly more untenable prices for firewood and charcoal, which are their fundamental means for cooking and heating, until such time when these essential resources of life will simply be out of their reach.

Education and culture, like health, are the most basic rights of man. These are not rights which the great masses enjoy in underdeveloped countries. The lack of schools and teachers, the lack of resources and extreme poverty determine these realities. The number of illiterates in the world has continued to rise in the last 15 years. According to official UNESCO figures, in 1965 there were 700 million illiterates in the world. In 1975 this figure increased to 800 million, and it is believed that it reached the 820 millions in 1980; that is approximately three out of 10 adults in the world were illiterate. It is estimated that the number will rise to 884 million by 1990, and mankind will arrive at the 21st century with nearly 1 billion illiterate adults. That is, in the period of the greatest advances ever attained by man in science and technology, there will be more than three times more illiterates in the underdeveloped world than the present population in Latin America and the Caribbean.

These somber figures do not include the enormous mass of children who in the underdeveloped world totally lack education and those who after attending the primary school drop out of education. In half of the countries on earth, 50 percent of the children never complete primary school. In 1980 there were nearly 250 million children between the ages of 5 and 14 years who did not receive any type of education. The fifth-richest part of the world, that is 20 countries with 21 percent of the world population, spends 50 times more per inhabitant on education than the fifth poorest part--26 countries with 23 percent of the population--that is, a still greater proportion than that of their economic inequalities which is 40 to 1.

Far from encouraging an educational drive, the developed countries in the West have exported the sexual exploitation of children to the underdeveloped countries. In a congress recently held in France, a report submitted on the sexual exploitation of children, a phenomenon barely known just a few years ago, called it an enormous tidal wave in a large number of countries in the Third World, and added that the tourist expansion known by some of those countries had been one of the main causes, pointing out literally that it had provoked the industrialization of tourist sex. According to a study conducted by the International Labor Office, in Bangkok alone some 200,000 young girls are prostitutes. Of these, half are less than 20 years of age and were sold to pimps when they were 12 years of age.

The health situation in the underdeveloped world equally reflects the enormous differences existing with respect to industrialized countries. According to the World Health Organization, more than 1 billion persons, 25 percent of the planet's population, live in conditions of poverty, overcrowding and in danger of losing their lives. Seventy percent of the children in underdeveloped countries are suffering from infectious and parasitic diseases. The child mortality rate in underdeveloped countries fluctuates between 15 and 20 children for every 1,000 born. In the poorer countries, the rate is higher. In Africa, it reaches levels of 200 to 350 dead for every 1,000 born. In Asia, it fluctuates between 100 and 150. In Latin America, it ranges between 30 and 170, with the exception of Cuba where it is under 20.

When analyzing the data on high birth rate in Third World countries, this means that of the more than 122 million children born each year, 10 percent will die before reaching their first birthday, another 4 percent before the age of 5 years. That is, 18 million children less than 5 years old die every year in the world, 95 percent of them in underdeveloped countries. This figure nearly doubles in the case of children who become partially or totally handicapped as a result of diverse diseases. The risk of dying before adolescence is 1 in 30 in developed countries, while it is 1 in 4 in African countries and 1 to 2 in certain countries.

The life expectancy at the time of birth in developed countries is between 72 and 74 years of age; in underdeveloped countries it averages at 50 years and in some regions of the world is less than 40. The number of physicians in certain groups of countries varies notably. While in developed countries the number of physicians averages at a rate of one for every 500 to 600 inhabitants, a numerous group of countries having much lower income have one physician for more than 60,000 inhabitants. That is, the average availability for the first group of countries is 20 physicians for every 10,000 inhabitants, while in the underdeveloped countries it amounts to one physician for every 10,000 inhabitants.

Summing up, we can affirm that the current situation of the underdeveloped world is as follows: 570 millions are hungry and undernourished, well below the necessary levels of calories and proteins; 800 millions are adult illiterates; 1.5 billion have absolutely no access to medical attention; 1.3 billion have a yearly income lower than 90 dollars; 1.7 billions have a life expectancy of less than 60 years at the time of birth; 1.03 billion live in inadequate dwellings; 250 million children do not attend any type of school; 1,103,000,000 are unemployed.

At the United Nations in October 1979, on behalf of the Nonaligned Movement, whose sixth summit conference had just been held in our fatherland, Cuba proposed formulas to give a response to the desperate economic and social situation of Third World countries. We proposed, first, an additional fund of not less than $300 billion at real 1977 values, which would be divided into annual amounts of not less than $25 billion to be invested in underdeveloped countries. This assistance would have to be in the form of donations and long-term soft loans with minimum interest rates.

There, we summarized in 10 points the additional and essential steps needed to begin to reverse the crisis which, because it is more present than ever, I will repeat once again. Unequal trade bankrupts our peoples and must stop. The inflation being exported to us bankrupts our peoples and must stop. Protectionism bankrupts our peoples and must stop. The imbalance existing in the exploitation of marine resources is abusive and must be abolished. The financial resources being received by developing countries are insufficient and must be increased. The arms expenditures are irrational and must stop and these funds should be used to finance development. The international monetary system predominating today is bankrupt and should be replaced. The debts of lesser developed countries in a disadvantageous situation are unbearable, have no solution and should be cancelled. Being in debt economically overwhelms the rest of the developing countries and should be alleviated. The economic abyss between developed countries and those wanting to develop, instead of diminishing, is widening and must disappear. Those are the demands of the underdeveloped countries.

Is this perhaps the time for an arms race? Is this the time to build neutron bombs? Is this the time for a warmongering policy? Is this the time for deploying 572 intermediate-range missiles in Europe? Is this the time for producing MX missile systems which will cost billions of dollars? New strategic bombers? Nuclear aircraft carriers? Trident submarines? Reactivating World War I battleships? Investing $1.5 trillion in military expenditures during the next 5 years and initiating the greatest arms effort in history, as the United States proposes to do?

The peoples, above all the hungry peoples of the Third World, the workers and all laborers on earth, both manual and intellectual, know that this is a colossal madness which will fall on their squalid backs, will aggravate the world economic crisis, unemployment and, what is already true in the case of billions, a desperate and untenable situation which will lead to nothing else but a final holocaust.

In addition, the new U.S. administration has already announced that it will reduce its contributions to international credit institutions and will propose that concessionary credits be eliminated. According to the WALL STREET JOURNAL, the Reagan administration proposes to take its economic philosophy to the International Monetary Fund, to the World Bank and to the Inter-American Development Bank.

This philosophy implies pressuring developing countries to adopt policies tending to reinforce the market economies, that is the action of the private capital and transnational enterprises. It also proposes to make international agencies demand from countries soliciting credits from them to make their governments eliminate subsidies for prices, eliminate restrictions on imports and cut back public expenditures.

What can be expected from U.S. economic cooperation and contributions to a new international economic order with these ideas? It is impossible to have in existence at the same time a warmongering policy and cooperation in the world. These realities should be explained very clearly to Mr Reagan during the next Cancun conference where, by the way, the almighty and indispensable gentleman has arrogantly prohibited that Cuba's voice be heard under the threat of not paying attention to it. In the previously mentioned speech at the United Nations, we stated that the noise made by arms, by threatening language, by arrogance in the international scene should stop. Nevertheless, now we observe that the opposite is taking place.

The new U.S. administration has pushed aside all theories on the need for military balance, the basis for the possibility of peaceful coexistence among states with different economic and social systems in which mankind is divided today. The U.S. Government claims as negotiating condition that its military supremacy be accepted. In the name of an arrogant economic superiority and a supposed technological advantage, it seeks to have such supremacy. The accords on the limitation of strategic arms--Salt II--which had previously been considered to be satisfactory by U.S. specialists as part of a process toward the gradual elimination of nuclear danger through additional limiting negotiations, are discarded by the United States, stating that they do not satisfy that country's military requirements which are conceived only in terms of military supremacy.

Thus the march along the path of negotiations has been interrupted. Since the days prior to the Munich Pact, statements as incongruous and as threatening as those being repeated by U.S. leaders--not only by President Reagan but also his secretary of defense, Mr Weinberger, and his secretary of state, Mr Haig--had not been heard in international forums. They play at war with war.

Apparently, the new U.S. administration does not care for the opinion of those who form part of the military alliance on which U.S. strategy is based. The NATO governments demanded that prior to the deployment in Europe of the 572 ballistic missiles--which the Pentagon wants to place there extraordinarily increasing the danger of a nuclear war that will affect Europe. first of all--the United States should sit at the negotiating table with the Soviet Union. The European peoples go farther than their rulers and are increasingly more rejecting the deployment in their lands of those new nuclear arms. But, the U.S. contemptuous response is far from making possible the negotiations. Instead of showing a will to negotiate, the Reagan administration challenges international consciousness by ordering the production of the neutron bomb. A more sinister mockery could not be conceived.

On another subject, who could forget that the U.S. opposition to the presence of 42 intermediate-range missiles in Cuba in 1962 led to a crisis that placed the world on the brink of nuclear war? Why not think that the USSR will feel seriously threatened and provoked with the presence of 572 U.S. missiles of this type near its borders? That attempt of superiority, which no moral limitation can stop, is the one determining U.S. international policy worldwide and adapts its attitude according to today's most pressing problems. The United Nations has established that the territories that Israel seized from the Arab countries during the war must be returned to them without delay, and that a state be created to which the millions of Palestinians who have no fatherland may go to and establish as their nation. The Zionist government not only makes a mockery of those decisions but challenges the international community with its increasingly more aggressive acts, which Washington tolerates and encourages as it feigns to search for peace and threatens to stop the supply of arms.

But the hypocritical gesture is of short duration and the Reagan government continues to send the F15 and F16 aircraft, and receives Begin in the White House to discuss the terms of a strategic accord between Israel and the United States which has just been finalized. The United States appeared to be committed to a lukewarm formula of obligations, prepared by four other countries--France, England, Canada, and the FRG--in an effort to seek a peaceful solution to Namibia's independence. But it is a clear fact that, following the visit to South Africa by Assistant Secretary Crocker and the Reagan-Botha talks, South Africa feels reassured that the United States counts on it as a strategic factor in the aggressive alliance it is attempting to impose worldwide.

The countries bordering the Indian Ocean have struggled over many years to achieve the declaration of a peace zone for that area, and get the various naval fleets to pledge to abandon it. The Soviet Union has expressed its willingness to do so, however, the Reagan administration has concentrated an enormous naval force there which is part of its military plans for the region in association with South Africa. It is attempting to extend this same type of collaboration to Latin American countries, imposing on them their incorporation into an alliance for the South Atlantic which would complement NATO.

Brazil's refusal is a signal of the new times being faced by the U.S. imperialists. As part of its global aggressive policy, the new U.S. administration has promoted As-Sadat to the rank of gendarme of the Middle East, sponsors an anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian policy in its increasingly closer relations with Israel, divides and weakens the Arab world through the use of its most reactionary allies in the region against the progressive countries, supports and encourages revolution in Afghanistan and blocks every attempt of negotiation and understanding between the Pakistani and Afghan Governments, provokes Democratic Korea, strengthens and broadens its relations with China in the economic, political and military fields in an evident dangerous strategy of using it against the USSR. It also increases its subversive activities in the midst of the socialist community.

The most worrisome and dangerous parts of its policy are its arrogance and lack of interest in negotiating disarmament, the arms race, detente and peace, its aggressive, offensive and arrogant language, not heard even during the worst phases of the Cold War and the preposterous attempt to pressure, threaten or blackmail the Soviet Union. In another dangerous step of its maniac and unchecked arms race, the U.S. Government 4 days ago declared that it is considering the possibility of converting the wastes of that country's nuclear power plants into plutonium for its nuclear arms programs.

Yankee imperialism has openly declared itself gendarme of the world and is prohibiting any social change in any country in the world, declaring itself willing to intervene. For the present U.S. administration, a revolution anywhere in the world simply is Soviet expansionism. However, the frightening economic crisis being lived by the world will inevitably set off revolutions and profound social changes in one or another country. The revolutions have existed since the history of man exists and are as difficult to avoid as the labor pains of a pregnant whale.

Five war episodes, all bloody, almost all, all dangerous and detestable can be attributed to the warlike policy and philosophy of the new Yankee administration. First, its interventionist and genocidal actions in El Salvador, arming and training a terrorist government which has assassinated more than 20,000 sons of this noble and heroic peoples. Second, the bombing by the Zionist government of Israel of the Iraqi Nuclear Research Center, an unprecedented act in times of peace, which could have caused a catastrophe and which sets a nefarious and unpunished example in international life. Third, the brutal Zionist bombing of Lebanon, which has cost the lives of hundreds of Lebanese and Palestinians and caused mutilations, wounds and indescribable suffering to thousands of persons. Fourth, the provocation launched in the Gulf of Sidra against Libya and the downing of two Libyan planes that were guarding their country's coast. Fifth, the criminal invasion and bombing by South Africa of Angola which has cost hundreds of deaths and heavy destruction. These facts have been created by the United States, which objected in the UN to any adequate action or forceful condemnation of the aggressors.

The Reagan administration and its policy of aggression, therefore, is already smeared with the blood of not only thousands of murdered Salvadorans, but also with the blood of hundreds of murdered Angolans and hundreds of massacred Lebanese and Palestinians: the blood of three peoples; of three different continents.

Particularly indignant of late has been the aggression of Angola perpetrated by the racist and fascist South Africans, in total agreement with the U.S. Government, which encouraged and condoned the invasion and impeded through a hateful veto the condemnation and sanction of the aggressors.

What explains this close alliance of imperialism with the execrable regime of apartheid? The community of political ideas and the community of economic interests. South Africa, with less than 7 percent of Africa's total population, possesses 1/3 of the gross product of the continent. In its territory, including Namibia, it has 55 diverse minerals. It has 60 percent of the world production of gold, 30 percent of chrome, 25 percent of manganese, 16 percent of uranium, 14 percent of diamonds. In relation to the total of African minerals it has 45 percent.

The greatest economic relations between capitalist Europe and an African country are with South Africa. The large racist capitalists of South Africa share profits with 630 British transnationals, 494 U.S., 132 of the RCA [as heard] and 85 French-owned in that territory. Fifty percent of South African investment belongs to foreign capital, which controls 87 percent of the productive capacity of the private sector. Those very same transnational enterprises enabled the access of South Africa to nuclear technology. As was recently stated by Chester Crocker, U.S. assistant secretary for African affairs, the U.S. investments in South Africa amount to $3 billion, its annual trade to $6 billion and banking credits granted to this country total $3 billion. On what type of exploitation is this wealth, shared by the transnationals of the West, based?

In South Africa the white population is 4.5 million persons, the black population 19 million persons. Distribution of land is whites, 87 percent; blacks, 17 percent. Distribution of the gross national product: whites, 75 percent; blacks, less than 20 percent. Proportion of average income: whites, 14; blacks, 1. Number of doctors per inhabitant, whites, 1 for every 400; blacks, 1 for every 44,000. The infants mortality rate: whites, 27 per 1,000; blacks, 200 to 400 per 1,000. Education costs per child per annum: whites, $696; blacks, $5.

On speaking of international politics, it is impossible to be silent about what is happening in Northern Ireland. I feel dutybound to refer to it. I feel that the Irish patriots are these days writing one of the most heroic pages of human history. They have won the admiration and respect of the world. They also deserve its support. There are 10 who have died in the most emotional gesture of sacrifice, of personal selflessness and courage imaginable. Humanity should be ashamed that before its very eyes such crimes are committed.

These young fighters are not asking for independence to end their strike; they are not making unattainable demands. They are only demanding something as simple as recognition of what they are: political prisoners. And these men, for whom we are asking solidarity at this conference, are not Marxist-Leninists or communists. They are Catholic militants. How is it possible that in the very heart of the Western World this cold and dramatic holocaust is being tolerated? We cannot grow accustomed to crime: not in Ireland, nor in El Salvador, Angola, Namibia, South Africa, Lebanon or anywhere. The stubbornness, intransigence, cruelty and insensibility of the UK Government before the international community regarding the problem of the Irish patriots who are on a hunger strike until death remind us of Torquemada and the inhumanity of the inquisition during the Middle Ages. Legend tells us that once Rome, in its early days, was under siege. Two young Roman soldiers had been taken prisoner. When, with the purpose of breaking their will, the attackers threatened to burn them alive they, as a sign of contempt, spontaneously thrust their hands into the fire. It is said that this gesture impressed the attackers in such a way that the siege of Rome was lifted.

Tyrants tremble when they are faced with men who are willing to die for their ideas. After 60 days on a hunger strike, following the example of Christ's 3 days on Calvary which for centuries has been a symbol of human sacrifice, it is time to put an end to this disgusting atrocity through denunciations and pressure by the world community.

The most respected leaders of Latin America, the European social democratic parties and the most levelheaded U.S. analysts all agree that the origin of the political and revolutionary upheaval in Central America--which resulted in a democratic victory in Nicaragua and has turned El Salvador into a hotbed of heroic rebellions today--should not be sought in foreign influence but in the unmitigated stupidity of the social and political regimes that the major part of Central America has been living under.

The Washington government is accusing Cuba, however, of being responsible for the Central American unrest. Fifty years ago, when the Cuban revolution had not even appeared on the horizon, the Salvadoran people had already tried to unearth their rotten regime from the very roots. This attempt ended with the deaths of almost 30,000 Salvadoran patriots by Dictator Maximiliano Martinez. Sandino fought against the Yankee marines to defend his fatherland, and later the Somoza tyranny murdered thousands of Nicaraguans--although this exemplary people would not let themselves be defeated--while our revolution still had not emerged in America.

It is not Cuba, in a presumed subversive action, which is destabilizing Central America. It is Yankee imperialism which in the past imposed atrocious governments and systems of merciless exploitation in these regions, which currently rejects any possibility of political agreement in El Salvador, which contributes each day with new arms for the repressive forces of this country, which hypocritically tries to hide the genocidal barbarity of its accomplices, which threatens with direct military or indirect intervention through the equally reactionary, homicidal regimes which serve it in the area and assume the responsibility for the fact that in Central America there exists no peace.

Imperialism has continually tried to justify each of its latest steps in El Salvador with a number of lies and charges against Cuba which are systematically repeated by its unscrupulous spokesmen with a cynicism that would make the "devil" [in English] himself envious.

It is not true--and I repeat it here with absolute moral authority--that there are Cuban military advisers in El Salvador. It is a lie that some of the arms supplied by the USSR for our defense are being redistributed in Central America. It is a lie that Cuba is supplying arms and military equipment to the Salvadoran patriots. There is no way to do this. For many months the Salvadoran patriots have been fighting with their own resources and weapons which they seize from the enemy. Lies, lies and more lies.

We have challenged the U.S. Government to show some shred of evidence of their charges, and it has been unable to answer one single word. We are not committed to denying these falsehoods. The charges they have lodged against us do not merit a moral judgement nor forsaking the sacred duty of helping in any way we can a brother people who are being massacred and exterminated. If it were within our reach, it would not be immoral or reprehensible to help with arms a people whose offspring, including women, children and elderly people, are being brutally annihilated.

The matter, then, lies in the factual nonexistence of these possibilities. Why all these lies by the genocidal U.S. Government then? To deceive U.S. public opinion, to deceive the U.S. House and Senate, where more than a few show scruples about the policy followed by their country in El Salvador, to cynically deceive world public opinion, to send large amounts of sophisticated arms and military advice to the assassins.

The Governments of Mexico and France agreed on a courageous and humanitarian undertaking: to recognize the representativeness of the patriots who are fighting for the physical survival of their people and their fatherland, in order to permit a negotiated and political solution to the bloody conflict. This is not intervention.

This is a cry for justice, which is compatible with the purest principles of international law and with the interests of the nations and peoples of the world in the search for peaceful solutions to the hotbeds of tension that are poisoning the international atmosphere.

To intervene is to arm to the teeth and to give military advice to a bloodthirsty gang that in only 18 months has committed more than 20,000 crimes, in order to crush a rebellion that is the exclusive result of dozens of years of ruthless exploitation, abuses and crimes. With weapons, they will be able to kill the hungry and exploited masses in El Salvador, but not the hunger, the illiteracy nor the unsanitary conditions and injustice that prevail in that country. Nor will they be able to kill the people's just and ancient right to rebel against tyranny.

This noble step by Mexico and France prompted the ire of the imperialist interventors. In a grotesque uproar orchestrated at the instructions of the United States and accusing these two prestigious countries of intervention, a few governments of this hemisphere that pretend to be democratic unblushingly joined bloody, repressive and fascist tyrannies, whose most recent calling card is an unending list of coups d'etat, tortures, murders and disappearances.

This action has bared from head to toe several pharisees, true whited sepulchres, who, invoking the word democracy and the very name of Christ, support one of the most monstrous crimes committed on our continent in this century.

The search for a negotiated and political solution to the bloody conflict in El Salvador sponsored by Mexico and France is the same formula proposed by such prestigious governments as those of Canada, Nicaragua, Panama, the Scandinavian countries, a large number of countries who belong to the Nonaligned Movement, the Socialist International and all of the world's progressive forces.

And let no one delude himself that the revolution in El Salvador is weak. That country's patriotic movement is strong and will become increasingly stronger and invincible and will not be defeated by arms.

This parliamentary conference must become aware of and take a stand on this problem. Let there be respect for the sovereignty of El Salvador and for its heroic people's right to life and justice.

Similar Yankee threats and dangers of aggression hover over the heroic fraternal peoples of Nicaragua and Grenada. They require maximal international support and solidarity. Also in need of our sympathy, support and encouragement are the fraternal peoples of Panama, in their struggle to secure fulfillment of the canal treaties; the peoples of Puerto Rico, subject to the infamous Yankee colonial status; and those of Guatemala, who are struggling against the cruel tyranny imposed by the U.S. intervention against Arbenz in 1954, the bitter fruits of which have been 70,000 patriots assassinated since then.

I have left until the end the issues related to our fatherland. The Yankee imperialists have increased their economic blockade of our country. They are intensifying their espionage and subversive activities. They speak barefacedly of setting up official radio transmissions from the U.S. Government, to promote the destabilization and counter-revolution in Cuba. The CIA has been freed of all restrictions.

To the reiterated public pleas that it clarify whether this sinister institution will once again have a free hand to organize attacks against the leaders of the revolution and to use plagues against our plants, our animals and our population, the government of that country has not committed itself.

We are threatened with naval blockades and direct attacks. Recently, we expressed our conviction that imperialism is using biological arms against our country. This is not a baseless charge. In less than 3 years, five serious plagues and epidemics have affected our cattle, our plantations, and even worse, our population: swine fever, tobacco blue mold, sugarcane rust, hemorrahagic dengue, and lastly hemorrhagic conjunctivities, which have caused considerable material and human damage. In all cases, they appeared without any logical or natural explanation.

It is known that the United States has developed an entire sophisticated arsenal of arms of this type and the methods to employ them. Within the imperialist concept, these arms can be used in times of peace. Hemorrahagic dengue has cost us 156 lives, including 99 children. This epidemic broke out suddenly in our country at a time when no outbreak had been reported in any other place. It involves virus No 2. In a serious and fundamental study carried out by Cuban scientists and technicians, with the advice of highly qualified foreign experts, we reached the conclusion that this virus was introduced deliberately into Cuba.

According to the analyses made and the study of all available information when the epidemic broke out in Cuba, in no country of Africa or Southeast Asia with which we have relations had there been any epidemic outbreak of virus No 2 of the dengue. We have confirmed that no Cuban or foreigner who came from those areas or others had been affected by the illness caused by this virus. In the Central American and Caribbean region, the epidemiological situation at that moment was as follows: in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Colombia, as well as in the islands of the Caribbean, including Haiti, Puerto Rico, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and St Cristopher-Nevis-Anguilla, virus No 1 was circulating. On the islands of Dominica, Curacao, San Bartolome of the Lesser Antilles and in El Salvador, Honduras and Puerto Rico dengue virus No 4 was circulating.

In this manner, it was seen that in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean islands, after the year 1978 there had been no case registered of dengue virus No 2. The dengue fever in the islands adjoining Cuba, which originated at the outset of the start of the epidemic in our country, was provoked by virus of types No 1 and 4. It has been specifically virus No 2 of the dengue that has been one of those receiving the most attention in the U.S. centers dedicated to the development of bacteriological weapons.

Such aggression might seem absurd, but it is not if we analyze the precedents of the criminal activities which the U.S. Governments have developed against Cuba, many of which are known today and which no one questions, because they have been investigated and disclosed by the self-same U.S. Senate. Here I am obliged to mention some which we already mentioned in our charge on 26 July. During the 91st session of the U.S. Congress on 18 and 20 November and 2, 9, 18 and 19 December 1969, a meeting was held to analyze the alleged plans on the use of biological weapons against Cuba. During these sessions the following eloquent dialogue occurred:

Mr Fraser: It has been said that the United States is preparing to use biological weapons regarding Cuba. Can you tell us if this is true or not?

Mr Pickett: I have no knowledge of this.

Mr Fraser: Does anyone here have any information on this matter? There is no reply.

Mr Pickett: I have seen debates on the matter in the press.

Mr McCarthy: I would say that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is not ignorant of the incidents that have been mentioned. There are persons in the government who are familiar with the minutes of the present and of the past; I know that the information is included in their minutes.

In the report produced by the special senate committee in 1975 which investigated the CIA activities, it is stated textually: In November 1962, a proposal was implemented for a broader program of new clandestine operations to oust Castro. Presidential aide Richard Godwin and Gen Edward Lansdale, who had experience in counterinsurgency operations, played important leading roles in the creation of this program, called Operation Mongoose.

By the end of 1961 and the beginning of 1962, William (Harvey) was put in charge of the "W" operational force of the CIA; this was the CIA unit for Operation Mongoose. Operating force "W" acted under the direction of the expanded special group employing some 400 persons in the CIA headquarters and in its Miami branch. (Mackon) and (Harvey) were the primary CIA participants in Operation Mongoose.

On 19 January, 1962, the main operation Mongoose participants held a meeting at the office of Attorney General Kennedy. The minutes taken at the meeting by Geroge (Magnus), executive assistance to Helms, included the following: conclusion--the overthrow of Castro, if possible. The solution to the Cuban problem is a priority concern for the U.S. Government. We cannot stint on time, money, efforts or human resources.

On 18 January, 1962, the report says further on, Lansdale apportioned 32 preparatory tasks to the agencies participating in Operation Mongoose. In a memorandum sent to the working group members, Lansdale emphasized that the task was to put U.S. expertise to work on the project, in a rapid and effective manner. This demanded a change in daily operations and a serious awareness of the fact that we are in a war situation in which we have been granted full command.

The 32 tasks to be accomplished covered a wide variety of activities, ranging from the gathering of intelligence information to be used by the U.S. military forces in supporting the Cuban popular movement to the development of an operational program for acts of sabotage inside Cuba.

On 19 January, 1962, Lansdale added an additional task to those already assigned on 18 January. Task 33 covered a plan to disable the Cuban sugar workers during the harvest through the use of warlike chemical agents. Lansdale declared that the plan included the use of nonlethal chemicals, capable of making the Cubans temporarily sick and of keeping them out of the fields for a period of 24 to 28 hours, without harmful effects.

This task was initially approved for planning projects, with the observation that it would require a political decision prior to its final approval.

The (SGA) [not further identified] approved the 33 Lansdale tasks with a view to its planning on 30 January, 1962. The revision of General Lansdale's program for project Cuba dated 20 February, 1962, included his basic action plan. Phase four of that plan included as one of its components an attack on the cadres of the regime, including key leaders.

This must be a special objective operation. In carrying it out, the CIA's operations with deserters are vital. The gangster elements can furnish the best potential recruitment for actions against the officers of the G-2. Technicians of the bloc must be added to the list of objectives. The CW, Chemical Warfare, agents must be taken fully into consideration.

Further on, the report states: notwithstanding the program, teams of agents were sent to Cuba. A memorandum from Lansdale dated 13 March, 1962, to the special expanded group instructed that 2 teams of agents be sent from 1 to 15 April, 1962; 2 teams of agents be sent from 16 to 30 April, 1962; 2 teams be sent to Cuba from 1 to 15 May, 1962; 4 teams of agents be sent to Cuba from 16 to 31 May; and from 10 to 15 teams of agents be sent to Cuba 1 to 10 June, 1962.

In addition to the infiltration of agents, the mongoose program included proposals for accelerated sabotage.

The unsuccessful attempt to blow up the Matahambre mine was approved on 30 August, 1962, and a memorandum dated 31 August, 1962, from Lansdale to the (SGA) selected targets for sabotage like the Matahambre mine and different refineries and nickel plants. The same memorandum suggested: Encourage the destruction of harvests through fire, chemical products and weeds; and prevent the harvest through delays in work and the destruction of sacks, cardboard boxes and other shipping containers.

These frightful acts I just mentioned are not merely inventions of mine. They are the disclosures of illustrious members of the U.S. Senate.

On 1 September, 1981, the U.S. newspaper Miami HERALD published a report that stated textually: Washington--The high-sounding charge by Fidel Castro that the harmful plagues that destroy harvests and animals in Cuba and the dengue fever epidemic that has caused the death of more than 100 persons on the island are the work of the Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, does not appear inconceivable to the authors of a new book, which will be published this fall. A former agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, William W.

Turner and newsman (Warren Hinkley) report that the United States used biological warfare in Cuba during the Nixon administration. According to them, Nixon's tricks included the introduction of swine fever to destroy Cuba's swine production and atmospheric modifications to create instant flooding and destroy harvests. The authors allege that the CIA has compromised the United States in a secret, undeclared and illegal war against Cuba for more than 20 years. The so-called project Cuba is the largest and least known CIA operation outside of the legal bounds of its statutes, they affirmed. The biological war, the assassinations and the misinformation were elements tested with diverse levels of success by the CIA, according to Turner and (Hinkley). The story of project Cuba is the story of an important U.S. war, undeclared by the congress, not recognized by Washington, and not reported by the press.

In regard to this same topic, the introduction of swine fever into Cuba, initially done in 1971, a very revealing UPI dispatch datelined Washington, 9 January, 1977, states textually: The Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, refused to comment today on the report that it might have been implicated in a premeditated outbreak of African swine fever that resulted in the sacrifice of 500,000 swine in Cuba in 1971.

NEWSDAY, a newspaper from Long Island, New York, reported today that, with at least basic support from the CIA, agents linked with anti-Castroite terrorists introduced the African swine fever virus into Cuba in 1971. Six weeks later, an outbreak of the disease obliged Cuban health authorities to sacrifice 500,000 swine in order to avert an animal epidemic of national proportions.

African swine fever, as opposed to swine influenza, does not affect human beings but is highly contagious and mortal in the case of swine. An unidentified CIA source revealed to NEWSDAY that in the beginning of 1971 he had been given a container of the virus in Fort Gulick--a U.S. Army base in the Panama Canal Zone, also used by the CIA--and said that it was taken via a fishing boat to persons who operated underground in Cuba.

This was the first time that the disease manifested itself in the Western Hemisphere. A CIA spokesman said that no comments would be made on the report by NEWSDAY. It is known by their own admission that at the time of the African swine fever outbreak in Cuba, the CIA and the U.S. Army were experimenting with poisons, mortal toxins, products to destroy harvests and other techniques of bacteriological warfare, the report stated.

The epidemic noted in this report occurred in our country on exactly the date indicated, during the Richard Nixon administration. Now, when we have still not completed our struggle against the dangerous dengue epidemic, another epidemic, hemorrhagic conjunctivitis, which appeared in an explosive manner in the capital of the republic, has been introduced in a strange and inexplicable manner. We hope that none of the persons here will be affected.

Messrs parliamentarians, our reasons for thinking the worst of imperialism and its terror and crime institutions are solid. Not in vain have 20 years of bitter experience passed. We do not fear imperialist threats. It can perhaps be known when a conflict against us should be started, but no one can know when and how it will end.

The U.S. system is not fascist, but it is my deepest conviction that the group that constitutes the main nucleus of the current U.S. administration is fascist; its thinking is fascist; its arrogant rejection of any human rights policy is fascist; its foreign policy is fascist; its hate for world peace is fascist; its intransigent refusal to search for and find formulas of honorable coexistence among states is fascist; its prepotency, its arrogance, its arms race, its quest for military superiority at any cost, its adherence to violence and domination, its methods of blackmail and terror, its alliance with Pinochet and with the most brutal regimes of this hemisphere--whose methods of repression, terror, torture and disappearances have caused the death of tens of thousands of persons, without their relatives knowing even where their bodies are--their shameless alliance with South Africa and apartheid, all are completely fascist.

Its threatening language and its lies are fascist. I will never say that the U.S. people are fascist, nor their legislative institutions, nor their press nor their many creative social organizations, nor the considerable remainder of their noble democratic traditions and their commitment to freedom. Our hope is based on the certainty that fascism cannot succeed in the United States or in the world, but the fact is that, at present, within the structure of an imperialistic bourgeois democracy, a fascist leadership has been established in the United States. And this is very dangerous.

However, in the past, fascism was not defeated by lamentations, honeyed words or concessions. It was defeated by struggle by becoming aware of the facts, by noting them in time. To denounce and resolutely combat this mad policy is one of the ways to avoid a holocaust. It is necessary to demonstrate that today's world cannot be intimidated by threats and terror; nor can such a policy be imposed upon it; that there will be no Munichs or undignified concessions, that there will be resolute opposition and that the peoples will resist its criminal pretensions to the death if necessary.

World opinion is already reacting and the U.S. people will not be long in doing so, as the drastic measures against the interests of the most modest sectors of the U.S. society begin to have an effect; as the budget deficit increases; as inflation, recession and unemployment are aggravated; and as international repudiation and the resistance of the peoples grow in the face of an irresponsible and adventurist policy that can only lead the empire to ruin and to an abyss.

Men, leaders, whatever honors of recognition we feel we deserve, are passing things. Only one thing has lasted until now: humanity, and the values it has created in the course of millenia. It is not exaggerating to say that today, all that we love, all that for which we have struggled, all that was dreamed of by those who preceded us and of which we dream today, the past, the present and the future, is endangered. We are spectators to and actors in a singular minute in history. Many may wonder whether we are experiencing the need of an era of a final era. Will humanity survive? We might all ask ourselves. For the first time in human society, these dramatic concerns are being faced by man. We must face these real dangers with serenity and bravery. We cannot allow ourselves the luxury of being pessimistic, because the struggle for peace would then be lost before it is begun. We cannot be cowards, because then both dignity and peace would already be lost. We can and we must preserve peace, without the least surrender, basing our actions on the mobilization of peoples, including the people of the United States; on the immense power of world opinion and conscience, as was demonstrated during the heroic Vietnam war; on the present correlation of forces between socialism and imperialism, which the latter is vainly attempting to alter in its favor; on the peoples' ability and determination to fight, to resist any imperialist aggression; and on international solidarity, which can be expressed in a thousand new and varied ways.

We even trust in the spirit of self-preservation of the imperialists, knowing as they do that if a nuclear war is unleashed, they will also inevitably be converted into ashes.

We will preserve peace if the enemies of peace know that we are prepared to die for it rather than submitting to blackmail and fear. The adventurers, the maniacs and the madmen cannot determine the fate of mankind. We hope that the world will survive and that conscientious men, just criteria and reflective, intelligent and courageous decisions will prevail. So that all nations and peoples, present and future generations, can live in peace, security and justice.

Mankind must last and if we are determined, conscientious and courageous, it will last. [applause]

IPU President Replies

PA160334 Paris AFP in Spanish 0223 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] Caracas, 15 Sep (AFP)--IPU [Inter-Parliamentry Union] President Rafael Caldera, a Venezuelan, has rejected the terms of a speech by Cuban President Fidel Castro, who harshly criticized the United States, Great Britain and indirectly, Venezuela, over the question of El Salvador, on opening the IPU Conference in Havana.

VENPRES, the Venezuelan news agency, reported tonight that Caldera, a former Venezuelan president and an international Christian Democratic leader, said: "I cannot fail to express the opinion that the speech (by Castro) was improper and unprecedented."

Caldera said that the speech did not adhere to IPU customs. "The words of the host chief of state are generally of welcome and perhaps (?express) an opinion, but they are delivered in a tactful tone and in generalized terms," Caldera said.

After stating that he "would not hesitate to subscribe to the major portion" of the first part of the Cuban leader's speech, in which he discussed the status of the Third World and the need for a new international economic order, Caldera objected to the second part, which was political in nature.

Caldera said that Castro made assessments that can be described as nothing other than aggressive toward several countries represented in the IPU, "which will undoubtedly lead spokesmen of those countries to respond in the course of the general debate, in exercise of the basic freedom of the IPU."

He added that "there was a reference to the Venezuelan Government, without naming it, and a rather direct reference to Christian Democracy, that I consider to be unjust and inappropriate, because while he is entitled to his own beliefs on El Salvador, I defend the honesty and the sincerity of the position of Christian Democracy in general and of the Venezuelan Government in particular on this subject."

He added that for this reason, he felt obliged to refrain from applauding Castro at the end of his speech. He merely got to his feet as a sign of respect for the host country and the chief of state.

VENPRES indicated that during the first debates of the 68th IPU Conference being held in the Cuban capital there will be replies from the representatives of the countries goaded by Castro.

In Venezuela's case, the agency indicated, Deputy Oswaldo Alvarez Pay [who is also a Christian Democrat], immediately took action to be included on the list of speakers for the plenary session tomorrow.

Western Delegations Respond

PA170349 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2326 GMT 16 Sep 81

[By Jose Maria Izquierdo]

[Excerpts] Havana, 16 Sep (EFE)--The desire to answer the aggressive speech with which Fidel Castro opened the 68th IPU [Inter-Parliamentry Union] Conference here yesterday seems to have caused participating delegations to relegate their planned speeches on scheduled topics to second place.

The delegations from Great Britain and the United STates, supported by the FRG and Egypt, among others, placed more emphasis on replying to the Cuban president than on discussing disarmament, decolonization or Israel's actions.

British Deputy John Page replied sharply to Fidel Castro's charges against his government in connection with the death of the Irish hunger strikers. After praising his country's penal system, he said that "it is not a case of patriots, but of terrorists."

The same line was followed by the representatives of the FRG, Egypt and other Western countries that were displeased with the content of the Cuban leader's speech and with the fact that he used a forum of this type for a speech that was so markedly ideological.

Another common action by the group of Western countries has been to bring up the topic of Afghanistan, even though the chair did not agree to include it under the subject of "disarmament," on the grounds that it is not a "directly related subject," since the USSR's intervention in that country was condemned last year at the 67th IPU Conference.

Meanwhile, in their speeches, Iran and Iraq became embroiled in an open verbal war away from the microphones, while the rest of the delegations looked on in surprise, having great difficulty understanding the harsh words that were being exchanged in Arabic.

Raul Roa Welcomes IPU

PA161830 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1401 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Speech by Raul Roa Garcia, acting president of the Cuban National Assembly, at opening session of the 68th Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference in Havana's Palace of Conventions--live]

[Text] Mr President of the Cuban Council of State; IPU President Dr Rafael Caldera; IPU Secretary General Pio Carlo Terenzio; Dr Diego Cordobes, special envoy of UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim; other executive committee members on the podium; delegates, members of the diplomatic corps; invited guests:

I greatly appreciate the high honor of extending a most cordial welcome to the parliamentarians who are here in Havana. I welcome you on behalf of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government and on behalf of the Cuban people, who have greeted, with singular warmth, the holding, in our capital, of the 68th Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference.

This feeling is also motivated by the direct link of our people with the organization which at the highest institutional level engages the full participation in the work and control of state activities and because of its thorough knowledge of the sustained efforts carried out by the IPU in favor of world peace, the liberation of peoples still tied to colonialism and international cooperation.

This powerful and influential organization includes representatives elected in 94 countries. It is vivid proof of the common endeavor of peoples with different social regimes. It is not fruitless to stress that the National Assembly of the People's Government is the crowning achievement of a process whose roots go back to the beginning of the war of independence when, in April 1869, the first Cuban Parliament emerged in the villa of (Guaimer). Our people clearly realize that a vital link exists between the fistful of heroic and dedicated deputies who simultaneously took up the law and the machete and the current National Assembly of the People's Government. It is vital link that exists between the seed and the fruit.

The National Assembly which greets you today is the vibrant embodiment of the genuine expression of the people's will.

In the years after the overwhelming victory of the revolution movement which was conceived, organized and directed by Fidel Castro, there began to emerge, maturing with the dynamics of their development, the elements and conditions that would guarantee the Cuban people the effective exercise of their sovereignty in representative organizations at municipal, provincial and national level. In fact, in view of the expiration of the terms of the deputies and delegates, these organizations are holding general elections this year.

The final stage of this process achieved its penultimate step when through a February 1976 referendum, 97.7 percent of the men and women over 16 years of age expressed, in free and secret ballots at the polls, their approval of the text of the socialist constitution of the Republic of Cuba.

This constitution, jointly with the formulation of its principles and objectives, translated the large political, economic, social and cultural transformations, which amid the aggressions, harassments and foreign intrigues, had occurred over that period of time.

The high point of this fertile and dynamic cycle was the formation of the National Assembly of the People's Government on 2 December 1976. This National Assembly is made up of 481 deputies who represent the most cherished part of our people and all the [word indistinct] that are combined in the melting pot of the nation.

The aspirations and needs of all its components have a place in our institution. It is precisely that assembly--the voice, conscience and will of the Cuban people--which hosts this grand meeting of the IPU, to which Cuba is proud to belong. The parliaments attending are marking a significant date in its annals. The Cuban people have kept abreast of and value the important contribution of the union to the search for just and effective solution to the complex and difficult problems faced by the countries of the world. The Cuban people know and realize the noble purposes and ends set forth in the statutes, especially regarding the struggle for peace and international security in keeping with the purposes and ends of the United Nations.

This persevering effort to achieve such high goals gains at the present moment exceptional relevance and sense, and poses responsibilities and duties that cannot be shirked. It would be tantamount to trying to hide the sun with a finger to ignore the threats that hover over humanity at this moment. These threats stem from various regional conflicts which are encouraged by those who aspire to imperial world domination and who have generated a risky arms escalation which is continuing at an ever-increasing pace. Cuba joined the IPU in 1977. Since that time at the 64th conference held in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, our delegations have regularly attended the various meetings convoked by the IPU and hae contributed as best they could so that the ideals of the IPU might become concrete realities. During this time, we have viewed with sympathy the incorporation into our ranks of many developing countries, which have recently emanicipated and which have embarked on a new path in search of well-being for their peoples and the reaffirmation of their national identity.

We proudly note the request for membership of six new members: Zimbabwe, Guyana, Peru, the Republic of the Congo, the People's Republic of Benin and Uganda. With their work, these six will strengthen our dauntless battle for national liberation, social progress, international cooperation and peace. We greet them warmly. Of course, I will not go into the analysis of the agenda, other than to allude to the rich prospects that it offers to expand and deepen the contribution of the IPU to alleviating international tensions and to solving the most explosive situations. The mere mention of the topics denote the significance and importance of this meeting, which is being held in one of the most convulsed and threatened areas of the earth. It offers the beauty of its palm trees and the breeze of its beaches; but most important, it suffers from the effects of the arms race, the impasse of detente, the world energy crisis, the remnants of colonialism, the existence of the apartheid, the genocide unleashed in El Salvador, the obstacles to the independence of Namibia, the brutal invasion of Angola and the insane manufacture of the neutron bomb, a symbol of arrogance, insensibility and ambition.

I do not want to conclude these brief remarks without noting that the Cuban parliamentary group has done its utmost to ensure that the distinguished visitors have the best conditions that a country like ours can offer. Therefore, I beg you to excuse any deficiency which you may notice. As president of the Cuban parliamentary gorup, I make plead fervently for a fruitful outcome for the conference. I trust that all the delegates may take back pleasant memories of your stay on this indomitable island of the Caribbean. The Cuban people, through me, extend to you the hands of their proverbial hospitality. Thank you very much. [applause]

Reception for IPU Delegates

FL161201 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, hosted a reception last night for the participants in the 68th Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU] Conference which opened yesterday at Havana's Palace of Conventions. Greeting the guests along with Fidel were Raul Roa, acting president of the People's Government's National Assembly; Pio Carlo Terencio, secretary general of the IPU; Rafael Caldera, chairman of the IPU Council; and Diego Cordobes, special envoy of the UN secretary general.

First Session, Reaction

FL161350 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1132 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Today's plenary session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU] Conference will open at 1000 at Havana's Palace of Conventions with a resumption of the discussion on disarmament. Nine heads of parliamentary groups spoke on this important issue at yesterday's session, setting forth their views and their parliaments' positions.

Each state and each country must take a clear political stand vis-a-vis disarmament, said [Babken] Yesayevich Sarkisov, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, at the plenary session of the IPU. For his part, Herbert Fechner of the GDR called on all the world's parliaments to close ranks and preserve peace.

(Barram Sakhar), president of the Indian Parliament, described the development and manufacture of the neutron bomb as macabre and asserted that a dangerous stage had been reached in the history of mankind. He came out in favor of detente and disarmament.

Other speakers were (Petur Gutov), president of the parliamentary group from Bulgaria; John Page of Great Britain; Alexis Galanos from Cyprus; San Soare of Romania; and (Gilbert Volga) of Canada.

(Serge Beauchamp), delegate of the French parliamentary group, told Radio Relou that he found the speech delivered by Fidel at the opening session as very interesting and meriting deep analysis. The French communist senator said that what had most impressed him was the firmness with which Fidel dealt with the burning questions troubling today's world.

For his part, (Divimus Mutafa), a Zimbabwean parliamentarian, said that Fidel's speech outlined the aspects that should be debated at the meeting. It has been a great personal experience for me to have heard the Cuban president's speech, the Zimbabwean deputy said.

Fidel Castro's speech sets the guidelines for IPU debates, (Lambero Robledo), head of the Panamanian delegation, told Radio Relou, (Michel Debateau), first secretary of the National Assembly Bureau of the People's Republic of the Congo, said that Fidel's speech went to the root of the problem.

For his part, former Uruguayan Senator Enrique Rodriguez, who is attending the conference as a guest, said that Fidel's speech is tremendously important because it was the truth. The former Uruguayan senator denounced the death in prison of Deputy (Gerardo Cuesta), jailed in his country since 1975, whose death sadly coincides with the Havana meeting.

Second Day of IPU Conference

FL162308 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] Some 20 delegates made speeches in today's morning session of the 68th Inter-parliamentary Union [IPU] Conference, and most of them stressed the need for disarmament and the achievement of peace.

With Raul Roa presiding, the plenary session continued the debate on that very important topic of the agenda and it is expected that a large number of parliamentarians will have a lot more to say about it.

(Sosio Kimura), member of the Japanese delegation, recalled that 36 years ago his country was the victim of a nuclear air attack which is still causing numerous deaths. He urged the participants in the conference to make their best effort in favor of a reduction of nuclear arms. Seyyed Mahmud Do'a'i, member of the Iranian delegation, condemned the Zionist aggressions and proposed that Israel be expelled from the IPU.

The topic of Zionist attacks was the focal point of numerous parliamentarians, among them Mr (Assam), representative of the Palestinian National Council. He referred to the speech made by Cuba's Councils of State and Ministers President Fidel Castro, in which he voiced solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people whose situation, he asserted, is becoming increasingly serious. The Palestinian representative condemned Israel's aggressive policy and cited two of its recent actions, the attack against an Iraqi nuclear plant and the massacre of citizens in Beirut.

(Sandeing Muna), speaking on behalf of the United Republic of Cameroon, praised the excellent quality and organization of the conference which, he said, is the result of a mixture of Caribbean culture and Latin American sincerity.

The delegations of the Nonaligned Movement participating in the IPU Conference approved a motion of support for the pronouncements made yesterday by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. The group also agreed to establish coordinating committees for projects dealing with its interests and objectives. Also approved by the nonaligned representatives was a proposal to request the participation of the group in the IPU Executive Committee. The delegations of the Nonaligned Movement expressed support for a rapid implementation of a new international economic order.

(Dignuos Mutaza), president of Zimbabwe's National Assembly and head of his country's delegation to the IPU Conference, declared he is in full agreement with the pronouncements made by Cuba's Council of State President Fidel Castro in his opening speech yesterday. He also noted the aid being given by the Soviet Union to the peoples' independence, particularly to SWAPO. He also denounced the threats of the Reagan administration against Cuba in a press conference held at the Palace of Conventions. Likewise, he said that the frontline countries support SWAPO and the new Angola, which is fighting against South African aggression.

CUBAN, POLISH FOREIGN MINISTERS SIGN PLAN

FL162333 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] A plan of cooperation and exchange between the Cuban and Polish foreign ministries for the 1981-85 period was signed in Havana today. The document was signed by Isidoro Malmierca, member of the PCC Central Committee and foreign minister of Cuba, and Jozef Czyrek, member of the PZPR Politburo and Secretariat and foreign minister of Poland.

The plan provides for the exchange of information, meetings of officials of the two ministries and joint work to research and study matters of an international nature, among other types of cooperation.